

Bay Area Reporter

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395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

Unity Forum to be Held Saturday

by Dennis Conkin

Longterm strategies for responding to political attacks by right wing religious fundamentalists is the subject of "Unity," an afternoon community forum and discussion on Saturday, March 5 at the Metropolitan Community Church at 150 Eureka Street from 1-6 p.m.

Representatives from a variety of community groups around the Bay Area including Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, Marin Stonewall, the Bay Area Reporter, M.C.C., Project Tocsin, veterans, AIDS activist and other groups will be in attendance, according to organizer Cliff Anchor.

Ellen La Pointe will moderate the afternoon event.

"Each of us has own our agendas and ways of responding to our opponents, and we all have something to contribute to planning strategies," Anchor said.

Anchor said that he was

concerned about the way the christian right has been able to mobilize a media response about lesbian and gay issues — and said that gays in the military issue and last September's demonstration at Hamilton Square Baptist Church were cases in point.

Anchor said that the christian right was prepared when Sheldon came to town — and while lesbian and gay activists were able to mount a response, that the fundamentalists capitalized on that response and turned it around to their advantage.

"It's an open meeting to discuss the attacks on us from various fronts and how we can effectively and appropriately respond," Anchor said. "Everyone is welcome."

Anchor said that he hopes that from the open discussion, the groups will be able to begin to plan for and develop a coordinated strategy for a "strong counterattack" that would include a variety of re-

(Continued on page 14)

Gung Hay Fat Choy



First for Gay Asians

The Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) and Asian-Pacific Sisters marched for the first time ever in the annual Chinese New Year's Day Parade February 26.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Castro Merchants Say No to Noah

by Dennis Conkin

More than a dozen food merchants on Castro Street will oppose an attempt by Noah's Bagels, a Bay Area fast food restaurant and the HIV/AIDS Life Center, to amend a decade-old city ordinance prohibiting new restaurants from opening a non-food retail space in the Castro District.

Many of the merchants will testify in opposition to the proposed amendments at a March 3 Planning Commission meeting set to hear the request by the Emeryville-based Noah's for a condition use permit for the 400 Castro site, former home of the Bank Of America.

The Bank moved out of the site in 1992 and currently pays the Lurie Company, owner of the property \$15,000 a month on its lease. Noah's will pay the Bank \$5,000 a month and use an estimated 1,500 feet of space.

Under an arrangement with the Life Center, Noah's will lease the entire site for seven years with an option to renew, open an outlet next to Marcello's Pizza, pay \$120,000 for the renovation of



The now vacant building at 400 Castro has become the focus of contention between area merchants and Noah's Bagels and the Life Center.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

the site and turn the unused space over to the Life Center for the term of the lease.

The Life Center plans to share the remainder of the

site with a variety of AIDS service groups such as Shanti Project, The San Francisco AIDS Foundation and publicly funded AIDS service groups including the University of California AIDS Health Project.

The groups will conduct information and referral programs, support groups and AIDS and HIV counseling from the centralized location.

An AIDS antibodies test site, currently located at District Health Center One on 17th Street, would also move into the facility, which would

(Continued on page 4)

Who's Behind SB 1432, Anyway?

by Marghe Covino
B.A.R. Capitol Correspondent

SACRAMENTO — California Senate Bill 1432, authored by Republican Don Rogers of Bakersfield, would create the mechanism to alter the current Health and Safety Code and make HIV, AIDS, and ARC reportable as sexually transmitted diseases. (See accompanying story p. 3.) According to Ken Topper of the office of Senate President Pro-Tem Bill Lockyer, a companion bill is expected from Senator Newton Russell's office, mandating contact tracing of HIV-positive Californians' sex partners. It remains to be seen whether criminal penalties would also be mandated with that bill.

One ominous aspect of Rogers's proposal (and the possibility of Russell's) is that the California Medical Association — which has fought past effort to pass this kind of legislation — has now signed on to SB 1432, creating a powerful ally for proponents. The CMA resolution of support reportedly stems from a presentation to that body by Stanley Monteith, a member of both the State Republican Central Committee and the Council on National Policy, a right wing money and ideological conduit. Monteith is also featured in the gay-bashing video *The Gay Agenda* as a purported expert on gay sexual practices, reciting the numbers of gay men who supposedly indulge in bizarre sexual practices.

The Sacramento-based right wing watch group Pro-

ject Tocsin has identified another organization, calling itself the California Physicians Advisory Council, which is sending newsletters and "action alerts" to doctors, urging them to write letters of support for the measure on their personal medical stationary and to indicate the sending of carbon copies to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. They are also advised to sign the letter as a physician to "lend medical validity to your opinion."

According to Jerry Sloan of Project Tocsin, CPAC's address and telephone number is the same as that of the Sacramento-based right wing lobbying and educational organization Capitol Resource Institute (CRI), which is itself controlled by the Capitol Commonwealth Group. In addition to its role as a well-financed lobbying organization, CRI is a focus group for the Colorado-based James Dobson's Focus On The Family. As a focus group, CRI gives political seminars to large, church-based audiences on how to become the "gatekeepers" of American society.

Rand Martin, currently chief of staff for Assemblymember John Vasconcellos, D-San Jose, was formerly executive director of the LIFE/AIDS Lobby. He is sanguine, even with so much support for SB 1432 from the religious right, and believes the bill won't even get out of committee. "I've been fighting this bill in one form or another by one author or another since 1986,"

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Bankruptcy

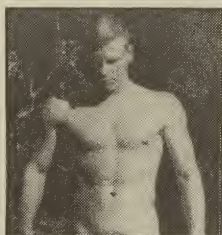


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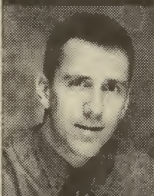
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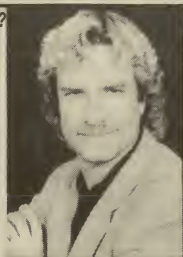
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National News

Campus Accrediting Group Omits Gays from Protections

by Dennis Conkin

After months of wrangling over a bitterly contested diversity policy, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, a regional campus accrediting group, has adopted a diversity policy that does not include lesbians and gays.

But, according to National Gay and Lesbian Task Force campus organizer Curt Shephard, a statement in the diversity policy saying there was no moral religious consensus about including lesbians and gays was omitted after protests from gay rights groups and activists in WASC affiliated colleges and universities.

The policy was adopted by WASC on February 25 at a meeting held at the San Francisco Airport Westin Hotel.

"The meeting of the Commission showed surprising support for the diversity plan.

They issued their fourth draft in December. When we got the draft we were pleased about some things and disappointed about others. They took out the statement about moral consensus but left in the statement that they weren't telling religious institutions what to do," said Wood Massi of Friends of Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals in Academia.

WASC had been heavily lobbied not to adopt the policy by private institutions, including religious schools and universities.

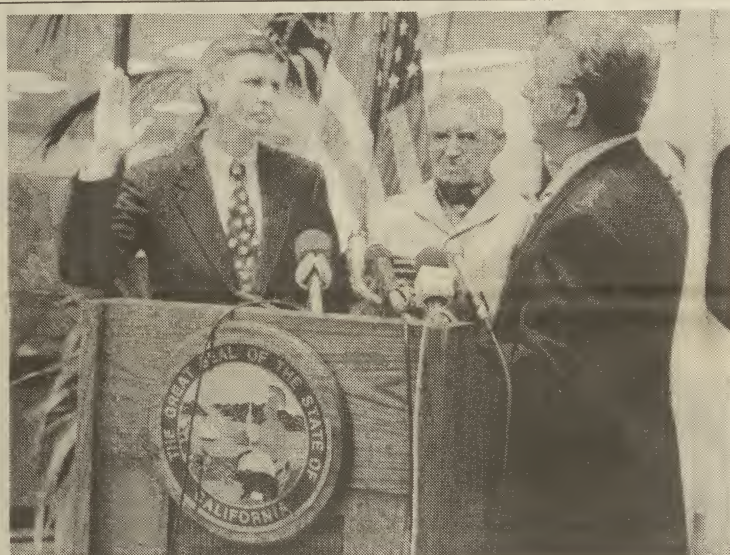
But other private educational institutions also objected on the grounds that WASC was overstepping its bounds as an accrediting group and should not interfere in such issues.

Stanford University, even though it has strong diversity policies, objected to the WASC policy.

Gay activists have been organizing around WASC's failure to have the policy for several years, and although it doesn't include lesbians and gays as a class in that policy, that may be somewhere down the line, according to Shephard.

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors this month called on the accrediting group to include gays and lesbians in their diversity policy, and Mayor Jordan also wrote a letter urging the group to adopt such policies.

Until there are such clear protections, Massi said, religious schools and other institutions will be able to fire gay teachers and not admit students because of their sexual orientation and justify such discrimination on religious or moral grounds. ▼



Mr. incumbent

Openly gay former Deputy Secretary of State Tony Miller (left) was sworn in as acting secretary of state February 17, replacing now Ambassador to Micronesia March Fong Eu. Probable Miller opponents in November are LA's Michael Woo and Gwen Moore. (Photo: Adam Gottlieb)

Study Shows Men of Color AIDS Prevention Lacking

Disease Control and Prevention.

"This document is a long overdue assessment of the impact of HIV disease on gay men of color," said Steve Lew, Asian co-chair of the Campaign for Fairness. "Federal and local governments have ignored or underfunded appropriate HIV prevention programs targeting gay men of color."

The study analyzed street and community outreach, risk reduction and community intervention, HIV prevention case management, counseling and testing and public information programs in Chicago, Oklahoma City, Los Angeles, New York and San Juan.

"It is essential we begin to understand the impact of HIV on gay and bisexual men of color, determine the availability and accessibility of ser-

vices and how to respond to the epidemic within these populations," said principal investigator Gil Gerald.

None of the prevention programs studied adequately met the needs of these groups, he said.

"This study is going to be a useful advocacy tool for Washington, D.C., where currently the largest group of people infected are gay and bisexual men of color," said H. Alexander Robinson, president of the D.C. CARE Consortium and lobbyist for the American Civil Liberties Union.

The study recommends substantial increases in funding for programs targeted at and designed, developed and implemented by homosexuals of color. ▼

Sacto Pols Propose Mandatory Testing and Quarantine Bill Again

by Dennis Conkin

A recently introduced state Senate bill would classify HIV disease and AIDS as a sexually transmitted disease, which would require mandatory reporting of people with HIV and require mandatory testing of anyone suspected of infection with the virus.

SB 1432, introduced by Senator Don Rogers (R-Bakersfield), would also allow local health officers to quarantine people with AIDS under existing laws that allow for the quarantine of people with infectious or communicable diseases.

Medical Public Health and AIDS policy experts, including the California Medical Association, the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation oppose the bill — which, observers say, has no chance for passage out of the Legislature.

The California Medical Association public policy committee has decided the CMA should oppose the legislation for "scientific reasons. The committee's recommendation will go before the CMA board for ratification in March, but the bill may be dead before that time," according to a CMA spokesperson. The CMA does support mandatory reporting of people with HIV to state health officials.

"Regardless of the report-



Dr. Mitchell Katz, head of the SF AIDS Office.

(Photo: Rick Gerhart)

ing issue, the committee recommends ... HIV is not a venereal disease," the spokesperson said.

"The Department of Public Health does not support such legislation," said Dr. Mitchell Katz, head of the city's AIDS Office.

"There is no public health need," Katz said.

Katz told the Bay Area Re-

porter that public health measures used to control and treat sexually transmitted diseases are not relevant to treating people with HIV disease or AIDS.

"The Department of Public Health has always been against the mandatory reporting of HIV. It's not treatable in the same way as other sexually transmitted diseases, although there are similarities, and there is no indication for the quarantine of people with HIV," Katz said.

Health measures such as contact tracing taken to control and treat sexually transmitted disease are appropriate when they are "entirely curable," Katz said.

"If you find a case, you treat it, and they are no longer a case and no longer can transmit it to anyone. Treating HIV like syphilis or gonorrhea is medically inappropriate," Katz said.

Pat Christen, executive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, called the legislation "appalling and horrific," and said her agency would oppose any measure that attempts to "criminalize people with HIV."

A policy resolution opposing the measure was introduced by Supervisor Angela Alioto at the February 21 meeting of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. ▼

On the Job Training For Queer Youth

by Dennis Conkin

A collaborative effort among youth serving agencies has led to a unique local job training program for lesbian and gay and other sexual minority youth.

The program is funded by an estimated \$300,000 from Prop J, a 1991 ballot measure that set aside one percent of the city's general fund for new programs for youth which has netted \$13 million for youth services for the current fiscal year.

"It's on the job training for lesbian and gay youth and it's the first program of its kind in the country or the world. We are taking the lead and are out there in front," said Allegra Goodrum, coordinator of proactive youth services at Community United Against Violence.

The program involves seven groups including CUAU, BRAVA for Women in the Arts, Street Survival Project, the SF School District's Gay And Lesbian Support Services for Students, the SF Public Library and Inside/Out, a lesbian and gay youth magazine.

Youth in the program will be hired by several of the agencies at a minimum wage and receive on the job training for an estimated ten hours a week through August, said Goodrum.

Ten youths will be stationed at CUAU, performing a variety of projects including working on media outreach campaigns, and other agency tasks.

Youths hired by the other programs will perform the work of the agency, which ranges from theatre work at BRAVA to street outreach among sex worker youth at the Street Survival Project, Goodrum said.

"I remember what it was like when I was a young lesbian on my first job. I was absolutely terrified that people would find out my horrible secret," Goodrum said.

By providing on the job training to sexual minority youth in lesbian and gay agencies, youth have a "safer context" in which to learn important skills while they are performing valuable work for the agencies, Goodrum said.

The idea of the collaborative use of the funds is the brainchild of Anthony Lincoln of the Mayor's Office of Children's and Youth Services, and was undertaken by agencies which usually compete against each other for limited youth service funds.

"It's really a fantastic idea," said Greg Day, a long-time gay youth advocate. "It's Jesse Helms' nightmare. No state or federal dollars are used. It's all tax dollars approved by the voters." ▼

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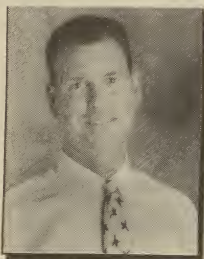
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Community News



Dining for dollars

Joyce Goldstein of Square One helps serve the entrees at the February 26 AIDS Emergency Fund dinner. She was the main force behind the \$75-a-person, sold-out gourmet dinner.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Study Shows Men of Color AIDS Prevention Lacking

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — The first multi-ethnic, multi-geographical study of AIDS prevention needs of homosexual and bisexual men of color shows programs aimed at these groups are severely underfunded, the authors said Monday.

The survey, released at a joint news conference by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention, found homosexual and bisexual African-Americans, Hispanics-Latinos, Asian Pacific Islanders and Native Americans comprised one-third of the infected men studied.

However, no more than 13 percent of available funding went to AIDS prevention programs targeting these groups, according to the report funded by the federal Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention.

"This document is a long overdue assessment of the impact of HIV disease on gay men of color," said Steve Lew, Asian co-chair of the Campaign for Fairness. "Federal and local governments have ignored or underfunded appropriate HIV prevention programs targeting gay men of color."

The study analyzed street and community outreach, risk reduction and community intervention, HIV prevention case management, counseling and testing and public information programs in Chicago, Oklahoma City, Los Angeles, New York and San Juan.

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Castro

(Continued from page 1)

open by the end of next fall.

The Golden Gate Performing Arts Association would also open a ticket outlet where the Bank's automated teller machines are located.

At a merchants meeting on February 28, several Castro merchants, including the owners of Orphan Andy's, the Cove Cafe, The South China Cafe, Welcome Home, Zapata's Taqueria and Rossi's Deli expressed outrage over the plans.

"It's not sour grapes and we want to know why we weren't informed of the plans and why," said Ray Powers of Welcome Home.

Castro merchants say they found out about the enterprise two weeks ago when a notice of the Planning Commission hearing was posted at the site.

John Paul Samaha, an aide to Supervisor Terence Hallinan, who supports the conditional use permit which must eventually be approved by the Board of Supervisors, says the plans were presented to the Merchants of Upper Market Street, a local merchant's group, and the group supported the bid.

"We met with the Merchants of Upper Market. We were told the Castro Community Business Alliance was no longer around," Samaha told

the Bay Area Reporter.

"That's a feeble excuse," said Mordecai Lichtenstein of the Cove Cafe. "They know where 400 Castro Street is and 500 Castro Street and certainly everything else in between."

The merchants say that neither Samaha or the Life Center gave them even a "courtesy phone call or letter" about the plans and should have "had the decency" to

Life Center provides a much needed centralized location for AIDS services at no cost, Samaha said.

But, the merchants opposed to the plan say they can't really afford the proposal, they also are upset about the underhanded way the deal was made, but not about the need for AIDS services.

"It's estimated that a new Noah's Bagels store would generate over \$1 million in sales annually. Granted, some of these sales will be new business, however, the bulk of it will come from the hides of existing food establishments," says Lichtenstein.

"The folks who put this deal together will be directly responsible for the demise of several businesses as well as numerous jobs lost," he said.

Once the conditional use permit is granted, the merchants asked, what is to stop McDonald's or Burger King from donating money to AIDS groups for the right to set up shop in the neighborhood?

"That's somewhere down the line, that's for sure," said Wayne Woo, who has owned the South China Cafe on 18th Street for 30 years.

Other merchants opposed to the conditional use permit include Hot 'n' Hunky, the Castro Cheesery, the Village Deli, and Mueller's Delicatessen. The Planning Commission meets at City Hall, March 3 at 1 p.m. ▼

"We want to
know why
we weren't
informed of
the plans."
- Ray Powers of
Welcome Home

work with the food merchants to find a non-food retailer for the venture.

The merchants say they are not afraid of competition but like it because "it keeps prices down and standards high" and would welcome Noah's if the chain took over one of the existing food businesses having a hard time in the neighborhood.

Noah's was planning to come into the area anyway and the arrangement with the

Gay Pastor Ordered Defrocked

by Dennis Conkin

An Evangelical Lutheran Church in America disciplinary committee has ordered the Rev. Ross Merkel of Oakland's St Paul's Lutheran Church defrocked for being a 'practising homosexual' following a two and a half day ecclesiastical trial last week.

Merkel, pastor of the 270-member Oakland congregation, was charged late last year by outgoing anti-gay Bishop Lyle Miller of the Sierra Pacific Synod with violating ELCA guidelines which only permit the ordination of celibate lesbians and gays.

In a news statement made following the ten-member national panel's decision on Feb 22, Miller called the ruling "painful and necessary."

"I will not resign," Merkel told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "I am a pastor. I don't have anything to hide."

Miller personally lodged the charges against the Oakland minister after Merkel preached a sermon on the 15th anniversary of his ordination as a Lutheran pastor last June and introduced his longtime partner to the mostly heterosexual congregation.

St Paul's Lutheran Church faces expulsion from the 5.2



St. Paul's Rev. Ross Merkel prepares to greet supporters.

(Photo: Judi Parks)

million member denomination if they do not call a new pastor to replace Merkin. But the congregation has announced that they intend to support Merkel, according to Paul Basting, a congregational representative.

Two San Francisco Lutheran Churches have already been suspended from the denomination for openly calling a gay man and a lesbian couple to serve as assistant pastors.

First United Lutheran and St. Frances Lutheran Church were ordered suspended for a period of five years and will

be expelled from the denomination in 1995 if the church does not change its ban on ordaining sexually active gay clergy.

"Truth-telling was on trial in the ELCA," said Rev. Phyllis Zillhart, assistant pastor of suspended St. Frances Lutheran Church. Zillhart and her partner the Rev. Ruth Frost are the parents of 4-month-old Noelle Hart.

"The national church has so betrayed its values of love and justice that it should close its door for Lent and open them only when it gets a life and a heart," Zillhart said. ▼

SB1432

(Continued from page 1)

he said, "and they've gone nowhere. Doolittle tried it, Leslie tried it, you name 'em, they've tried it — and it's always the far right wing."

According to Project Tocsin, the new bill's author is reported to be firmly in the camp of new Senate strongman Senator Rob Hurr of the conservative area near the Nevada border. Hurr is a member of right wing former Senator H.L. Richardson's Gun Owners Association, and was featured keynote speaker at a 1992 Mariposa County white supremacist convention sponsored by a California-based "christian identity" organization called Jubilee.

That background information leads Laurie McBride, executive director of the LIFE/AIDS Lobby, to a different conclusion than her predecessor. "I'm not sure that this thing won't pass. In fact, in the current climate it's entirely possible," McBride told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "In past years we could have dismissed it as road kill, but in the extreme analysis we shouldn't sit back and expect this thing to die of its own weight."

McBride derided the bill as "wasteful, erroneous, and ignorant" but predicts legislators may be tempted to vote for it. "These matters will only get worse as term-limits take ef-

fect and we have legislators with no memory of past legislation, little understanding of the history and the hearings that bring out aspects of the issues, which are extremely involved and complex."

Topper expressed some of the same concerns, saying the bill is "regressive" in that it could drive HIV-positive people underground when they should be encouraged to find out their true HIV status. "People who would access the anonymous and alternative testing sites would no longer have that option," he told the B.A.R. "Whether people who [now] access those clinics test positive or negative, they receive counseling about high risk behavior."

"I'm concerned that all of the gains we've made in prevention will be erased."

And, Topper said, since AIDS and ARC are already reportable diseases, [SB 1432 is] redundant. As I see it, the problem with this bill will be the fiscal impact: it will create more workload, on already overloaded local health offices." Topper said the bill is not well thought out at this point, but said more thought is usually given to a bill's implications during committee hearings.

McBride is determined that SB 1432 must not pass. Admitting the issue will require massive educational efforts on the part of LIFE Lobby and the

community, she sighed wearily and said, "We can't let it get through — it's so simplistic — it's just a feel-good, do-nothing, cost-a-lot response to a complex issue." ▼

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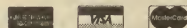
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Clarification:

In issue 7 of the B.A.R., the photograph by Jane Cleveland of an arrest by officers on Castro Street was not a photograph of Glen Peoples, who was referred to in the article. The photo caption did not identify the arrestee. The B.A.R. regrets any confusion.

Update:

The video by Pam Walton, *Suburban Lesbians*, referred to in last week's issue, has been moved by the cable company from Friday to Saturday.

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Editorial

The Virus of Omission

"It is hard to imagine, considering the inherent silliness, cruelty and superstition of the human race, how it has contrived to last as long as it has. The witch-hunting, the torturing, the gullibility, the massacres, the intolerance, the wild futility of human behaviour over the centuries is hardly credible. And the laws, as they stand today, are almost inconceivably stupid. With all this brilliant scientific knowledge of atom-splitting and nuclear physics, we are still worshipping at different shrines, imprisoning homosexuals, imposing unnecessary and completely irrelevant restrictions on each other. Hearts can be withdrawn from human breasts, dead hearts, and, after a little neat manipulation, popped back again as good as new. The skies can be conquered. Sputniks can whizz round and round the globe and be controlled and guided. People are still genuflecting before crucifixes and Virgin Marys, still persecuting other people for being colored or Jewish or in some way different from what they apparently should be. There are wars being waged at this very moment. The Pope still makes pronouncements against birth control. The Ku-Klux-Klan is still, if permitted, ready to dash out and do some light lynching. God, for millions of people, is still secure in his heaven, and *My Fair Lady* opened in London last night."

With the exception of *My Fair Lady* opening, this quote from the diaries of gay playwright Noel Coward, written in 1958, bears an eerie relevance to our current situation. While the president evades and eludes us, he finds time to order a few bombs dropped in far off lands. We are still worshipping different shrines and killing each other because of those differences.

Technologically, things have changed vastly since the days of Coward's observations. But people have changed very little. Unless we fight back with knowledge, the information superhighway, a supposedly expanding flood of technical accomplishments that will unleash knowledge worldwide, will leave us lying on the side like so much roadkill.

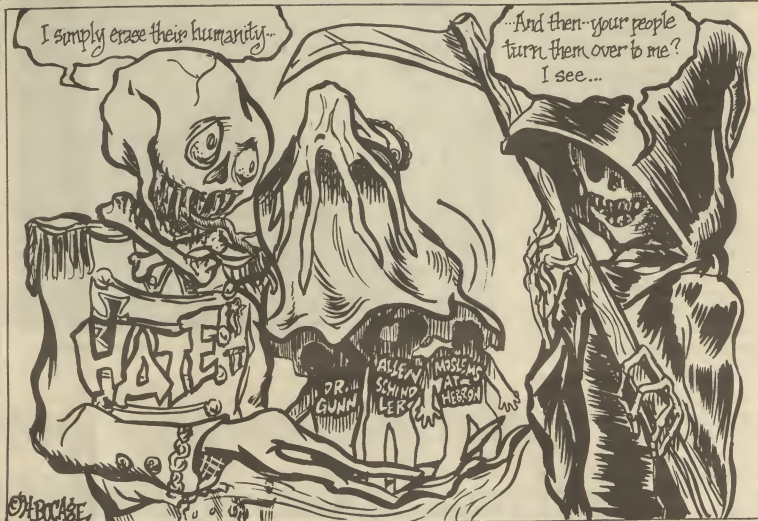
Lou Sheldon's wife, as entirely evil as her spouse, can make a single spouting protest, and the work of Alice Walker, one of America's greatest living writers, is eliminated from a student exam. Like an obese computer virus, the mendacity of fundamentalist bigotry has succeeded in removing an alternative view of life from the record. In light of the fact that the Sheldons, thankfully, have not spawned children, and that if they do, they will of course send them to a private fundamentalist school, we wonder what the Sheldons are doing foisting their bigotry on a school system that should, in all reality, have nothing to do with them. Yet they persist, like a virus.

The virus of omission is spreading, in schools like New York, where three pages of tolerance are ripped out through the pernicious diligence of fundamentalists on that school board. The virus ate through a recent issue of *Time*, where the homophobic views of the "Nation of Islam" were deleted amid charges of racism and anti-semitism. This is not a mere mistake, but a deliberate swipe against the gay and lesbian community. Sexism and racism, *Time* is saying, are outrages. Say anything against whites, Jews or women, and we will be outraged. Bashing queers, however, is not news. After all, those are "religious viewpoints."

The fundamentalists of all colors can spew all the fantastic fantasies about us that they want. That is the baggage of a democracy. But when they invade our libraries and schools, when they invade our memorials and PFLAG meetings, when they deliberately incite to riot, they are actively seeking to destroy us and our history. They would see to it that we are forgotten for our accomplishments and known only for our sex acts.

Among those fighting for our lane on the information highway are the thousands of video and film producers, computer hackers, archivists and librarians of a queer bent. We ask that you familiarize yourself with these quiet warriors, and support them in any way you can. Go see films like *Coming Out Under Fire*, come out on e-mail, and while you're at it, stop by the construction site of the new library in the Civic Center. The girders are going up fast, rising to build walls that can hopefully protect our bit of history from the termites of ignorance.

If that doesn't work, there are other uses for steel, more desperate perhaps, but useful all the same. As Mr. Coward said, "There are wars being waged at this very moment." ▼



Guest Opinion

The Future of 400 Castro

by Supervisor Terence Hallinan

The public hearing before the Planning Commission scheduled for March 3 concerning the vacant property at 400 Castro is to allow for a change in the current zoning to allow for a private food retailer, Noah's Bagels, to apply for a conditional use permit to use a small portion of this building. They would in turn make possible the realization of a model private/public partnership project serving the AIDS/HIV and gay/lesbian and bisexual communities until at least the year 2001.

All this is the culmination of a process that began in August 1992, when B of A decided to leave this location. My office then initiated the effort to prevent the lessor, B of A, or the Lurie Company, the owner of the property, to turn the facility over exclusively to commercial interests. Working with Supervisors Carole Migden, Roberta Achtenberg and Harry Britt, we then convened an ad hoc citizens committee to secure the by then recently vacated building for use by the community.

The committee then located and submitted the AIDS/HIV Life Center and Golden Gate Performing Arts to the bank as potential sublessors of the building. The bank, however, was concerned about the ability of the nonprofits to pay the \$5,000 a month rent, and requested that a for-profit business be introduced into the negotiations. Thereafter, Noah's Bagels surfaced as the most willing financially, and the most flexible in timing, and was selected as the best prospective commercial tenant to make this public/private partnership a reality.

A proposal was therefore created by which the portion of the building occupied for community use will be twice the floor area occupied by the food retailer. B of A will maintain their ATMs and a cubicle office, thus taking up 8 percent of the space, Noah's Bagels at 26 percent, and the community usage, 66 percent.

Noah's Bagels will become obligated to make an initial contribution of \$120,000 for renovations to the nonprofit office use space, including the building of a new mezzanine level for additional offices. Addi-

tional funds for non-profit improvements have also been allocated by the Mayor's Office of Community Development in the amount of \$100,000. In addition, Noah's will pay the rent and all maintenance costs for the remaining seven years of the lease of the building, totaling \$420,000. If granted, the conditional use permit will allow Noah's Bagels to remain in that location for 15 years, as they need the extra eight years to recoup their initial investment on their restaurant as well as on the non-profit office space. The Lurie Company has still not committed to allowing the nonprofit usage in the building beyond the initial seven years.

In any case, we feel that the benefits to the community for at least the next seven years of this project will be great. The agreement will allow the following: 1) An AIDS/HIV Resource Center to operate, rent free, at this location, for the first three years. 2) A ticket booth for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender visual and performing arts events, operated by Golden Gate Performing Arts, Inc. (GGPA), the parent organization of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. 3) When the AIDS and HIV Resource Center moves to the Life Center's new building at the corner of Noe and Market in 1996, 400 Castro Street will be available for use by GGPA and a consortium of other lesbian and gay cultural arts users, rent free until the year 2001.

We understand the concerns of certain merchants on Castro Street and are open to suggestions about ways to address their concerns. What we need to remember, however, is that a rejection of this ordinance, and hence of this agreement, will mean an entirely commercialized building at 400 Castro Street, such as national chain clothing stores, thus causing more competition for local retail outlets in the area. It will also mean a substantial loss of direct services to the community, as any delay or rejection of the planning code amendment or the conditional use permit may threaten the funding, already in place, for the non-profit agencies. ▼

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Letters

Convey Your Love

Yesterday afternoon, I called the information operator and got the telephone number for the "church" of Rev. Fred Phelps in Topeka, Kansas. I wanted to call and ask why a "Christian" would protest a funeral. I guess I have a stereotype in mind when I think of a church secretary. Boy, was I wrong! The woman was obnoxious, rude and defensive from the first second of the conversation.

To my shock, every other word out of her mouth was "faggot." She kept telling me that I liked to "take it up the ass." When I asked her why her mouth was so filthy, she answered that she was just "being direct."

This phone call lasted about 10 minutes. I was determined to be the last one to hang up the phone. I continued to question her where in the Bible she found words from Christ condemning homosexuals. My questions were ignored. She recited various anti-gay Bible verses, none of which came from Christ, because none exist from Him.

The most interesting thing about the conversation was the thing which made her the angriest: when I told her that I loved her, despite the fact that she was unable to show any love towards me. She furiously shouted that I "did not love her" and that she did not want "any of my faggot love." I told her she had it anyway, since Christ directs us to love our enemies.

Other readers might want to contact the "church," identify themselves as gay or lesbian and convey their love. The address came from the secretary: Westboro Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1886, Topeka, KS 66601, telephone (913) 273-0325.

Michael Blair
Clayton, CA

Rebuild Bridges

I was distressed to read about the recent actions of Fred Phelps and his group to disrupt the memorial service for Mr. Randy Shilts. As a pastor in San Francisco, we are trying to build relationships, not destroy them. It is frustrating when a small minority make a bad example for those of us who are trying our best to help people. We ask your forgiveness on behalf of the Christian community that has compassion.

Mr. Shilts' courage and determination can be an example for all who have a passion for humanity. We may not all agree on doctrine or lifestyle, but we will make more advances if we work together from our common grounds. The message is not to condemn the world but to bring hope. Obviously, we have not done that to the fullest measure. Please accept our apology and realize there are those of us who truly desire to rebuild bridges.

Pastor Ian Kaiser
Church by The Bay
San Francisco

Scandals Arise

I am writing in response to Jay Martin's letter in your Feb. 10 issue, "Our Own Worst Enemy."

Dear Jay, what gives? You want us to limit our public behavior during Gay Pride Week for fear that the fundamentalists will have fuel for their fires? Being president of the Humanist Community of San Francisco, I would think you would be inclined to have a better understanding of Gay Pride as well as other such community events in the Bay Area.

Correct me if I am wrong, but Gay Pride Week is the time for us to share with the world our lifestyles, beliefs, nostalgia and believe it or not — our behavioral patterns. We are classified as the *homosexual community* — not the same-sex pacifists of North America.

If I were to follow your guidelines of so-called acceptable behavior this coming June (or any time of year, for that matter), I would find myself at an even greater dilemma. You see, my beloved partner is classified black, and I, as white. And yes — we are homosexual partners for eternity. Imagine the millions of dollars it would generate when the "kristian cameras" snapped those photos of us just holding hands and walking down the street — let alone any display of physical affection for each other.

Please don't stoop to the same levels of stupidity our opposition uses to justify the contradiction within their cultures by having us modify our behavior to their standards.

Some day, the planet Earth will wake up and have learned we are all here together and furthermore, will stop classifying people as black vs. white, hetero vs. homo, positive vs. negative, male vs. female, etc.

Whenever that happens, we will have achieved true knowledge, wisdom, tolerance, world peace and acceptance of the human condition as a whole. But for now, reality — as I perceive it — dictates a harsher scenario, and this coming June, I will let my behavior be as it is and to those whom are aghast — "Scandals will inevitably arise, but woe to him through whom they come." (Luke 17:1).

Joseph A. Kasarda
Mountain View, CA

H.O.P.E. Less

A question on everyone's mind: What to do about the religious right? I certainly don't feel capable. I cannot quote the Bible. I can't speak about Jesus (as a Jewish woman, I've never been on intimate terms with Jesus, though I have been on intimate terms with what he stood for — love.) And I am not prepared to convince someone with a lifetime of anti-gay indoctrination that having a gay son is great.

I can't even get angry because when I hear someone from the religious right speak, my instinct is to love. The message is loud and clear: "Now I must love even more!"

I saw a directive today from the Oregon Citizen Alliance (OCA). One of those groups pushing their anti-gay agenda. It seems the OCA is so upset that PFLAG is supporting their gay children that they have been trying to figure out how to counter PFLAG. They've established an organization called H.O.P.E. (Help One Person Escape) to help those parents who do not support their gay and lesbian children. I suppose they will have monthly support groups and speakers just like we do, only in reverse. These parents will receive support in how to change their children. The antithesis of love — how to prevent your child from being fully themselves.

I suppose this should bother me. Strangely, it doesn't. Suddenly we (PFLAG) are viewed as powerful by the religious right. We have become so strong in numbers and so powerful in our love that we scare the OCA. We scare them with our love just as they scare us with their hate.

Personally, I prefer our way. I'd rather come from a place of outstretched arms, laughter, respect and openness. I'd rather not see us develop hate lines on our frowning faces like Jesse Helms.

Laura Siegel
San Francisco

Protection Tax

The following letter was sent to Mayor Frank Jordan, Chief of Police Anthony Ribera and members of the Board of Supervisors of the City & County of San Francisco:

This is a letter to hopefully encourage action on your part concerning recent events in our city.

As you are aware, the San Francisco journalist and AIDS activist, Randy Shilts, was memorialized at Glide Memorial Church on Feb. 22. What should have been a quiet service was turned into a major media event due to threats made by a fundamentalist church in Topeka, Kansas. While I strongly disagree with the opinions of these people, I do agree with their right to express them. The purpose of this letter, therefore, is not to oppose the rights of these people to come to San Francisco to make their opinions known.

Since these individuals are not tax-paying citizens of the City & County of San Francisco and since they came with no other purpose in mind than to cause a civil disturbance, requesting police protection to do so, I suggest the City & County charge Rev. Phelps' church the amount it cost taxpayers of this city for the extra police protection needed at this memorial service.

This congregation came to our city with the express intention of disrupting the service as we memorialized a fallen member of our community. Consequently, I do not believe they are entitled to receive extra protection by our police force which is paid for by our taxes.

If you are distressed by this sort of occurrence, then you will support this proposal. If our city government laid an accurate financial accounting on this church, it would be the last time they came to our beautiful home to create such an ugly disturbance.

Mark David Adcock
San Francisco

Sister's Foe

I just spoke with Rev. John Allen, Pastor of First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 562, Richton, MS 39476, telephone (601) 788-9607. He is leading the fight to drive Wanda and Brenda Henson and Camp Sister Spirit off their land. Perhaps your readers would like to share their thoughts with him at the above address and phone number.

Bud Clark
San Diego, CA

Citrus? No!

The Florida Citrus Commission has hired Rush Limbaugh as their mouthpiece. It seems they didn't learn their lesson with Anita Bryant. Letters of protest may be addressed to Mr. Dan Santangelo, Executive Director, Florida Citrus Commission, P.O. Box 148, Lakeland, FL 33802-0148, phone (813) 499-2500.

Letters may also be sent to the principal newspapers in the citrus-growing area: *Lakeland Ledger*, 401 So. Missouri Ave., Lakeland, FL 33801; the *Tampa Tribune*, P.O. Box 191, Tampa, FL 33601-0191; and the *Orlando Sentinel*, 633 North Orange Ave., Orlando, FL 32801-1349.

Bud Clark
San Diego, CA

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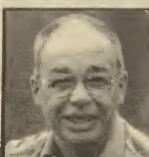
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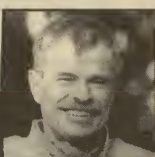


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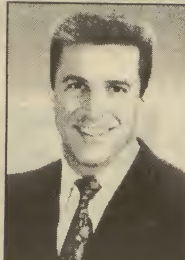


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Letters

Fascist, Disruptive and Downright Rude

After attending the Feb. 18 Town Hall Meeting at MCC Church presented by Dr. Senechek, it is becoming increasingly obvious that ACT/UP SF = SHUT UP Everyone Else! Billi Goldberg and her constant companions from ACT/UP SF have appeared at the last five town hall forums that I have attended in San Francisco and Oakland.

Myself and many other attendees are getting tired of the fascist, disruptive and downright rude tactics of your appearances. The monopolizing of the question/answer periods, the interruptions and your attitudes in general are counter-productive. I would like to see DNCB presented in a rational fashion, but your maniacal obsession is a little too reminiscent of right-wing preachers to have any appeal.

What about vitamins, bitter melon, aloe juice, Q, etc.? Those of us dealing with HIV/AIDS know full well there is no single answer either from you and DNCB or the pharmaceuticals. Quit disrupting the information chain we need to make educated decisions regarding our treatment options.

I was appalled by you and your group's attempts to discredit John S. James at the Oakland Kaiser meeting. He is a hero in the community and your sarcastic tone of questioning was disgusting, as was the scene at the Project Inform Town Meeting. If one does not agree with you, then they should have no voice.

Chill out, Billi and friends. Your 15 minutes are up!

Denis Winkler
Oakland, CA

We Are Authentic!

In response to the letter written by Dan Davis regarding Electric City: his use of the words "success" and "special lifestyle" is disturbing and vague. It seems this letter was motivated by seeing a drag queen on the show with his genitalia in full view. Should I remind you about a significant event 25 years ago triggered by drag queens who refused to tolerate abuse? Look up "Stonewall" in our history!

The purpose of Electric City is to give the community access to see the diversity of our success, creative talents and the strength in being queer and powerful. For the past 10 years, Electric City has carried vital issues over the air that significantly shape the community. In the past 3 weeks alone, we have brought abortion, women's rights, repression of Native Americans, the injustices against African Americans, safer sex information and the impact of poor health care into any television set in the city that has cable. I will remind you, viewers are treated as adults, capable of making judgements and changing the channel on their TV sets.

We publicly invite you to watch the show that has been asked to send material to the first Lesbian & Gay Film Festival in Brazil, to the Queer TV. station in Australia and various shows to Mexico and other locations around the globe. We defend the right of all persons within our community to exercise the right to control their own image. We will continue to fight any forms of censorship and efforts to assimilate our brothers and sisters into heterosexual guidelines of "success."

Use your intelligence and look beyond the human anatomy of drag queens. We are all doing our best to establish a "successful" lifestyle according to our own, individual standards. Don't you dare attempt to impose your standards into the goals of other people. The images you will see on your screen are real, they exist — we are authentic! If you don't like what you see, it is up to you to change the channel.

Arnel Valle, Producer
Electric City Network
San Francisco

Close Sesame

The following letter was sent to David V.B. Britt, Children's Television Workshop, 1 Lincoln Plaza, New York 10023:

My siblings and I were raised on daily doses of *Sesame Street* over the years. Unlike other children's programs at the time, which only showed white suburban child life, *Sesame Street* was urban, vibrant and multi-cultural. Like city kids, children raised on *Sesame Street* were better prepared for the diversity of the real world than were those children who were born before us.

Several elements in the show mirrored real life. Susan and Gordon reminded me of the funky black couple that lived together, unmarried and without children. The puppets Ernie and Bert mirrored the two men who lived upstairs from us. At first, I could not comprehend why two "daddies" lived together with no kids and never a "mommy" in sight; but Ernie and Bert made it seem natural and fun, and I don't think I ever thought about it again.

Apparently, much has changed since those cutting edge days, because CTW's reaction to an insinuation that Ernie and Bert are a gay couple was very disappointing. Children of that viewing age do not focus on sexual aspects of relationships, be they between Ernie and Bert or their own mother and father. Ernie and Bert simply live together, love each other and fight a lot. And that in itself is invaluable and important information for young children to be taking into their adult lives.

If your mindset is as narrow as it appears to be, may I draw a comparison for you? Imagine if the woman had written that "my children cannot watch *Sesame Street* because I hear Roosevelt Franklin is a nigger." Would you still have ignored the very essence of what the show depicts by pontificating that Roosevelt Franklin is actually purple and though he may appear black (especially if you don't have a color TV set), he is a puppet, not human? If you could have, you would have been nailed by everyone from the NAACP on down. In short, you would have known better.

The apologetic stance of your response makes me want to gag, because you reflect the same brand of covert prejudice that children internalize and take into adulthood. Denial. Who the hell are Ernie and Bert supposed to be, and who do they reflect? I trust the children who view the program are more insightful than you present yourself to be. Because whether Ernie and Bert are gay or not, they prepare children for that reality in a very comfortable way.

I now live in the Tenderloin of San Francisco. Recently, I was entering the lobby of my building and a 4-year-old Korean boy was showing his new baseball cards to a transvestite neighbor who had just come in with her groceries. The boy has no concept of sexual proclivities, the far right, or even *Stonewall*. He is simply sharing with someone he trusts.

Enzo Lombard
San Francisco

Sweater Queen Redux!

I never thought I would be writing in regard to one of the most selfish letters I have ever read in your newspaper. A letter which should never have been printed in the first place. But since I read that letter, I am truly pissed off! This queen who is more concerned about what clothing is to be worn on Castro Street!

Well — honey — step into the real world! Look at Castro Street: hundreds without clothing, without food, without shelter; look at the drugs on the street; look at the muggings; look at the recession; look at the number of unemployed; look at the dirty streets!

Let me tell you, queen: I'd rather see a real man in a torn tee shirt, torn leather or torn jeans than some prissy sweater queen! I'd rather donate what little money I have to any and all AIDS funds than worrying about a sweater!

This is not the movies. This is real life. So, the next time you have nothing better to do with your life than look for who is wearing a sweater, look at all our beloved brothers who are ill and need our help!

If you are only concerned about who is wearing a sweater, I'll give you all mine and you could give your many to some worthwhile organization who can help people, no matter what they wear. Get a life! One without a sweater! And while I'm at it, what is your only concern come summer? What attire would you be glad we wear? Or do you still require a sweater worn in 90° weather?

Marc Cicurio
San Francisco

Profiting From the Ill

There are now many third-party companies that offer early payouts of life insurance benefits to people who are terminally ill. These companies will give you access to part of your life insurance benefits before you die. They operate by having you change your life insurance beneficiary to them and they give you a percentage, say 70 percent, of the total that would have been paid to your beneficiary. When you die, the third party company gets 100 percent of your life insurance; thus, they make a 42 percent return on their investment. Meanwhile, you and/or your beneficiary lose 30 percent of your life insurance benefit.

Many companies are now offering similar plans for their employees. These plans are commonly referred to as accelerated life insurance benefit plans. The difference with these plans is that you don't lose any of your life insurance benefits to a third party company. The plan that is offered by the company that I work for will allow eligible participants to receive a cash-out of up to 50 percent of their life insurance benefits. Pre-payment of the benefit will reduce correspondingly the amount of life insurance proceeds payable to your beneficiary at your death.

I strongly recommend that if you are terminally ill and considering accessing your life insurance, that you talk to your life insurance administrator before going to a third party. If your administrator does not offer such a plan, they may be willing to negotiate an early payoff of some or all of your life insurance. Remember that from your life insurance company's point of view, they will be paying out 100 percent sooner or later, regardless. It is in your best interest that all of the money go to the people that it was intended for and not a third party.

As an aside, it seems to me that some of the bigger community AIDS agencies such as the SF AIDS Foundation or the AIDS Emergency Fund could start acting as third-party companies. Then these agencies could reap the profits of helping the terminally ill access their life insurance. This way, the money could stay inside the community and the terminally ill could feel good about giving a large tax free donation to an AIDS agency.

DJP (Name Withheld by Request)
San Francisco

Letters

Klaas For Concern

D. Curtis Wilkinson's Dec. 23 Guest Opinion piece, "Is Polly Klaas a Gay Issue?", was way off the mark.

True, over \$350,000 was donated to the Polly Klaas Foundation inside of three months, but there is not, as Wilkinson claims, "an undeniable imbalance between the support shown for one little girl versus the struggle faced by the millions of us who are gay and lesbian... living with HIV and AIDS." \$350,000 may sound like a lot of money, but try telling that to David Collins, President of the Kevin Collins Foundation for Missing Children (KCF), who for years has lobbied for money for programs that might have kept Polly Klaas alive. In 1991, the key functions of the "Sexual Habitual Offenders Program" (SHOP), kept track of kidnappers, rapists, child predators, molesters, etc., via statewide database and in one full year of operation took 23 habitual offenders off the streets and placed them behind bars, where most of them remain. Collins since has attempted to implement "Cal Info" and "Cal Alert Data Bank," both of which would have kept track of habitual sexual predators, both of which were vetoed by Governor Pete Wilson. Had any of these programs been in effect on the night of Oct. 1, 1993, the night that Richard Allen Davis was questioned by police, he would have been arrested that night and it is entirely possible that Polly Klaas might be alive today.

As a volunteer for KCF (and a gay man), I followed the Polly Klaas case with great interest and felt a great sense of "relief" that this issue was finally being recognized and talked about in the media. Where Wilkinson got the idea that the media's coverage of the kidnapping became a national campaign for "traditional family values" is beyond me and, in my opinion, total speculation on his part. In all the news broadcasts and talk shows I watched and listened to, I never once heard anyone mention the alleged breakdown of "traditional family values" or the fact that Polly's parents were divorced being blamed for her plight and the plight of other missing children.

David Collins, when faced with this question, has been quoted on nationwide television as saying "we know that the vast majority of child predators and molesters are heterosexual," and when confronted with the stereotype of gays and child molesters, Collins has always come to our defense; I feel the need to do so here for him and other parents of missing children.

Yes, Mr. Wilkinson, \$350,000 was a lot to be raised in less than three months, but the people who helped raise that money should be commended, not criticized; in the case of missing/abducted children, this money and this awareness was a long time in coming.

Kenneth J. Altman
San Francisco

JROTC Rotten

I write in response to last week's letter, "Under Revision," from Superintendent of Schools Waldemar Rojas when he wrote to dispute a letter from Lesbians and Gays Against Intervention (LAGAI) opposing JROTC programs in San Francisco's schools. LAGAI is part of the SF Coalition to Oppose JROTC, of which I am also a member.

LAGAI raised six important points of opposition to JROTC: this involuntary assignment of students to the program; violations of anti-discrimination legislation; disproportionate recruitment of low-income youths for the lowest ranks of the Army; racism in the military and in JROTC textbooks; promotion of violence; and cost of the program to the city (\$60,000).

Rojas only responded to two of these arguments. He claims students were not involuntarily assigned to JROTC. We know for a fact that at one SF school, the 9th grade class was split between Physical Education and JROTC, with no input from the students. Our sources wish to remain anonymous as the military has a good deal of power at that school. So it's his word against ours.

Secondly, Rojas actually agreed that a social studies textbook for JROTC makes the following statement about Native American genocide: "fortunately for the Army, the government policy of pushing the Indians farther west, then wiping them out, was carried out successfully." Rojas claims that this sentence was taken out of context (is there any context that could make such a statement conscionable?) He then claims to have been "assured" that the text is under revision and new editions will not contain that sentence.

Nothing short of completely rewriting all of the JROTC textbooks could serve to eliminate the racism, nationalism, sexism, homophobia and glorification of obedience and violence that pervade these books (not to mention the full curriculum). The sentence that LAGAI quoted is far from isolated. JROTC texts repeatedly refer to Native Americans as "the Indian problem," "fierce and ruthless fighters," "the Indian menace," and "the Indian troubles." Here are just a few other examples: "Among the traits of a good follower, loyalty is at the top of the list. This means loyalty to those above us in the chain of command, whether or not we agree with them;" "Westerners do not consider killing people in war to be murder..."; and "Everybody wants to be someone in life. And everyone can be someone special in the Navy."

And if this is not enough, check out what the military has to say to young people about safe sex: "the best way to avoid AIDS is to avoid illicit drug use and casual sex, especially with multiple partners and

homosexual or bisexual individuals." We've always known the military is homophobic, but are they also homophobic? All kidding aside, this is dangerous misinformation.

And that's it. Rojas didn't respond at all to any of the other arguments made by LAGAI. There's not the space to expound upon them here, but I urge anyone interested to contact the SF Coalition to Oppose JROTC, 655 Sutter St., No. 514, San Francisco, CA 94192 or call (415) 474-3002.

Judy Rohrer
Central Committee for Conscientious
Objectors, San Francisco

Ballet Vocabulary

I write to protest Eric Hellman's nasty and unenlightened review of African-American choreographer Donald McKayle's *Gumbo Ya-Ya*, recently performed by San Francisco Ballet. McKayle, Hellman writes, "makes no pretense at using ballet language and the result is an interminable frenzy of... jazz-based dancing."

Hello? George Balanchine, more than anyone, defined the American (as opposed to European or Russian) ballet aesthetic and vocabulary. Black dancers, black choreographers and Balanchine's own obsession with "jazz-based" dance and music were undeniably fundamental to that definition. And it's not just Balanchine: SFB's Program Three includes Agnes DeMille's *Rodeo*, of which a significant feature is tap dancing. *Tap dancing!* One could go on. Can you hear me, Eric, way up there at the top of your ivory tower?

Implying that the "400-year-old art form" of ballet "has come down to us — "pure" and unchanged and entirely immune to any cultural influence from beyond the courts of Northern Europe — is not only elitist, it's ignorant. And it's that kind of thinking that is helping American ballet die a slow and painful death.

When a "young, talented" choreographer like Mark Morris makes a mess of a new piece (*Maelstrom*), it's because he has yet to "grasp the complexity and variety" of Balanchine-based ballet.

When a black choreographer like McKayle — who is, by the way, also young and talented — makes a mess, it's because he has "no interest (or training) in ballet vocabulary."

In other words, black folks got no business being uppity and trying to make ballets. There's a word for that, Eric, and it begins with "R".

Holei Arlen Denwell
San Francisco

A Far Better Place

I am writing to take exception with Orland Outland's comments regarding Randy Shilts in a recent issue of your publication.

To imply that Randy was the "one gay man most responsible for closing the baths" is just not true. Several gay physicians, including one employed by the City & County of San Francisco, were most outspoken about the need to close the bathhouses. Their expertise in the medical field carried far more weight with the Board of Supervisors than did Randy's opinion.

I clearly remember listening to the evening news and hearing the report that it was suspected that this outbreak of so-called "gay pneumonia" was sexually transmitted. My personal network of friends, most of whom were liberal, many of whom were bath house patrons, met to discuss what course of action we should take. The vast majority of these people were in favor of closure. Randy was not alone. If some of those who took part in these discussions had known earlier what Randy and many others suspected was the cause of AIDS, they might still be here. Because the information was received too late for most, I am approaching old age without old friends.

Randy wrote *And the Band Played On* for which all of us should be eternally grateful. The popularity of this work introduced hundreds of thousands of heterosexual readers to the seriousness of AIDS. If the screenplay had to be altered somewhat in order to make it more palatable for Middle America, so be it. Gay people, for the most part, do not need to be educated about the horrors of this disease... straight people do. *And the Band Played On* reached thousands of people who were forced to think about AIDS or to look at it in a different light. If it took some slight modification of a previously published work to get the word out, it was a small price to pay.

I do not have any knowledge of how Randy felt about drag queens, gay activists or the gay press, but I do know how deeply indebted all people are for his brave and courageous stand on many issues of importance. If we could each contribute even half as much as Randy did, this world would be a far better place.

Robert M. Larsen
Point Richmond, CA

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Wayne Friday

GOP Unites Behind Wilson

Although he has consistently lagged behind Democratic opponents Kathleen Brown and John Garamendi in the polls, incumbent Republican Governor Pete Wilson left the state GOP convention, held at the Hyatt Regency in Burlingame this past

of a peaceful primary contest. Dannemeyer suggested during the weekend get-together that he thinks "Mr. Huffington might be more comfortable in the Democratic Party," then he attacked Huffington for his votes in favor of family leave and lifting the military ban against gays, adding that "there's a struggle going on for the soul of the Republican Party."

As for Pete Wilson, polls or no polls, Kathleen Brown and/or John Garamendi would be foolish to write him off; this man could very possibly go into the November election favored to win another term.

Politics and people

Despite Tom Hayden's glum showings in the polls (the latest shows the Santa Monica state senator with only 6 percent of the Democratic vote to Kathleen Brown's 44 percent and John Garamendi's 24 percent), he was telling reporters last week that he is in the Democratic gubernatorial primary right up until June. Hayden, who says he won't accept campaign donations larger than \$95 per person or organization, has plenty of personal money to spend and the kind of name identification that has got to concern the other Democratic candidates, particularly Kathleen Brown.

One Sacramento political writer predicts that Hayden, who says he is in the race because the other two Democrats have refused to "discuss the real issues of this campaign — such as reforming campaign spending," could draw as much as 20 percent of the Democratic primary vote, most of it presumably from Brown. Garamendi's forces are said to be secretly encouraged by Hayden's entry into the campaign, hoping, of course, that votes for Hayden might translate into Garamendi pulling out an upset primary win over the current state treasurer.

Don't count on Tom Hayden being the next governor of California, but he could very well determine who will be. Hayden likes campaigning, has unusually high name recognition (much of it admittedly negative), and can be expected to throw a considerable amount of his own wealth into the race, which might force both Kathleen Brown and John Garamendi



to spend more than they had expected to get past the June primary and into the November general election.

In the Netherlands, if you want to do business with gay-friendly companies, you just let your fingers do the walking through the *Rainbow Guide*. This new book, with more than 5,000 entries, is being published in Amsterdam by the *Gay Paper*, the country's largest newspaper aimed at gay readers, and lists everything from doctors to plumbers and has become an instant hit.

In Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, North Idaho College student leaders said this week that they will ignore the state attorney general and refuse to recognize the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Alliance as a campus organization. The attorney general's office said it will wait to see how college officials react before taking further steps.

In Washington, the \$8.6 billion Los Angeles earthquake relief bill signed by President Clinton last week includes a prohibition against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Gay rights groups hailed the provision as a first (it was a part of a last-minute compromise in a ban on quake aid to illegal immigrants).

Also, in Washington, the Human Rights Campaign Fund announced this week that more than half the members of the House have signed pledges promising not to discriminate in the hiring and promotion of gays and lesbians who work for them. Among those taking the pledge are Speaker Tom Foley (D-Wash.), Majority Leader Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.) and Minority Leader Bob Michel (R-Ill.). Fifty-two GOP members and every member of the Congressional Black Caucus signed the pledge to protect gay staffers of House members from having to lie

(Continued on page 28)

INFINITE CHEESECAKE Tim Sniffen

"Rage, rage, against the staleness of the latte."

—Me

From the moment I saw him, I knew there was a story to this man. His eyes said: "Epic."

He sat adjacent to me, brooding smile and all. Pensively, he lit a cigarette. (was it Junkish?) and poured brandy from a flask.

As the sun struck his dark red hair, the café spun around me.

Humming a waltz, he moved closer; I could smell the rose in his lapel. He stroked his elegant goatee... and caught my glance.

Our eyes locked. "Tell me," I said. "If the stars could speak, what would they say?" He began to weep and—

SIR?

NOTHING YOU'RE WRITING IN THERE IS TRUE! LET'S HAVE SOME SENSE OF OBLIGATION TO REALITY, SHALL WE? THANK YOU!

--and although I could not understand his garbled, Slavic tongue, that night I made him mine.

The Outer Limit

Captivatingly Campy Talk Show at Kiki's In the Blakk

by Rachel Pepper

To break up the travail of packing up my life's belongings, I willingly let myself be dragged off to see Joan Jett Blakk's show last week at Kiki Gallery. Entitled "Late Night With Joan Jett Blakk," this takeoff on talk shows is quite possibly the most captivatingly campy event I've been to all year. After all, when is the last time you saw a drag queen host a talk show where all the guests actually had something interesting to say?

I mean, aren't we all over diet plans and women who stay with their abusive boyfriends? Wouldn't you rather see someone like Joan interview community celebrities like *Whorezine* publisher Vic St. Blaise or Pansy Division singer Jon Ginoli? And who needs to watch TV for your thrills when you can walk to 14th and Guerrero and pay \$5 for two hours of great entertainment instead?

So there we were, sipping coffee next door at Red Dora's, watching as folks filed in for pre-show grub. When they starting drifting to Kiki's, I began to get antsy, since the gallery is just slightly larger than a postage stamp. But my girlfriend ignored my New Yorker's urge to rush right in, and consequently, we found ourselves stuck at the back of the line.

Finding every seat taken except for one butt's worth of bench right up front, we pondered our options. Crawl upstairs where we were clearly unwanted? Sit on some poor slob's lap? Or have a big fight outside about the results of our differing degrees of pushiness? Seeing our indecision, Ggreg Taylor saved the day by urging us to grab those four inches before someone else did. "Womanspace!" he cried, though if he knew anything about a woman's spaces, he would've realized my butt needed a bigger one than that on which to park.

Catherine managed to wedge in there, leaving me to sit at her feet on the cold hard floor, only inches from the side of the stage. Close enough to feel part of the act — and close enough to get really nervous each time filmmaker Phillip R. Ford shifted in his precariously perched chair. Was he really going to fall off and crush me to death?

Nothing quite so exciting happened, though it was still an evening to remember. Maybe it was Liza Binford's startling renditions of Kate Bush songs or Ford's admission that *Vegas in Space* was funded with drug and sex money, but I was starting to feel a bit surreal until Peggy Sue slammed us back to earth with tales about her life as a dominatrix.

The voyeur in me gets a thrill hearing how straight men will pay a ferocious, sadistic dyke to humiliate them for money. It sounds like a perfect lesbian fantasy, although I know in reality it's probably hard work. The best story she told was topping out a guy who said he'd do "anything" for her. So she took him to Safeway and charged up \$150 in groceries on his



White trash culinary whiz Babette (left) laps it up with Joan Jett Blakk. (Photo: Catherine Murty)

ATM card. Now that's my idea of S/M!

Undoubtedly, though, the best part of the show was Babette's contribution, "Helpful Kitchen Magic." There, before our very eyes, we were treated to a white-trash cooking demonstration which culminated in the creation of "Tonya's Creamy Snatch Pie." Armed with delicacies like Oreo pie crusts, ice cream, and a can of vanilla frosting, Babette artfully whipped up a pie in 90 seconds flat. The only casualty in the process was a fake fingernail, which landed at my feet with a tiny thud.

The voyeur in me gets a thrill hearing how straight men will pay a ferocious, sadistic dyke to humiliate them for money.

After laughing hysterically during the whole process, I had the honor of having the first bite of that pie created only inches from my nose. And gosh darn if it wasn't half-bad!

Joan's show has been running at Kiki for the past several weeks and has sold out every time. Hopefully, it'll be extended and moved to a slightly larger space, so no one else will be subjected to flying nails and the possibility of being annihilated by fag filmmakers.

A First Down Under

It's just about time for Australia's Mardi Gras festivities, and can I just tell you how much I wanted to go? Never mind the Gay Games and Stonewall 25, which'll provide New Yorkers with the perfect excuse to prove they can throw a party better than anyone else in the country.

No, I'm tired of traveling across the country just to spend a lot of money to see the same people I see in the Castro every single day. Just for once, let me be an unknown face on a new continent!

Still, if Mardi Gras sounds enticing, consider that the women of Australia have succeeded in something so absolutely incredible it surpasses even Mardi Gras: They've raised more than \$250,000 to open the world's first lesbian-owned and operated lesbian center! We think we're so politically advanced here in the U.S. Ha! We don't even have a bloody gay and lesbian center here in our own mecca of San Francisco, and the dykes down under have managed to pull off a world first to create some very real "womanspace!"

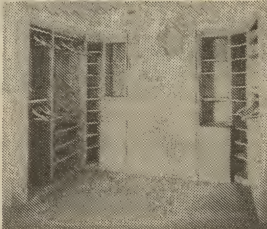
The *Sydney Star Observer* reports that on the final night of fundraising, a "deadline concert" raised \$80,000 toward the center's realization. A signed photo of Madonna was auctioned off for \$2,200 alone. When the organizers realized that their goal had been reached, they were ecstatic. "Unused to triumph," writes the *Observer's* Barbara Farrelly, "the lesbian community reeled in shock. Then it sank in. 'We did it,' was the most common exclamation at Delaney's Hotel where co-convenor, Georgina Abrahams, announced at 1 a.m. that the caretaker committee's vision to raise money to buy the world's first social and cultural center for lesbians had materialized."

Wow. I am truly impressed. Why don't the dykes of San Fran have a community center? Goddess knows we could surely use one. And how come instead of installing a gay center in the old Bank of America building, we're gonna get a Noah's Bagels instead? Maybe the *Bay Area Reporter* should send me to Australia on special assignment to check out this strange phenomenon. It'll only cost about a \$1,000 in air fare, well worth the investment to uncover why we're now lagging so far behind those Aussies. Just make sure you book me for Mardi Gras week, boys. I think there might be some research I need to do then as well! ▼

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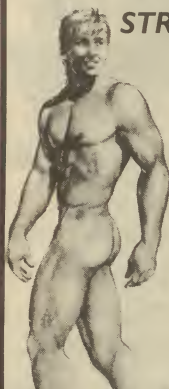
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California News

TVC Complaint Bans Alice Walker Story

by Marghe Covino

B.A.R. Capitol Correspondent

Sacramento, CA — State education officials have removed two of Pulitzer Prize-winning author Alice Walker's stories from a statewide English test. The story "Roselily" was removed by the State Department of Education rather than offend the Traditional Values Coalition.

The action was taken after Beverly Sheldon, wife of TVC president Lou Sheldon, testified before a state Board of Education committee and pointed out that "Roselily" was "anti-religious." The second story, "Am I Blue?" was removed, according to California State Board of Education President Marion McDowell, because it is "anti-meat-eating." The story ends with a symbolic statement on animal rights.

The story concerns a woman's musings about the loneliness of a horse kept alone in a paddock. While she is eating dinner, she thinks that human beings have little compassion for the animals they use and then spits out the piece of steak she has been eating. "That could be rather disturbing to some students," McDowell concluded, "who would then be expected to write a good essay while they were upset."

Acting state schools superintendent Dave Dawson has denied the decision to remove the stories had anything to do with protests from the TVC. Susie Lang, a Dawson spokesperson said, "We don't see this as censorship," and noted the story was not banned from the classroom but just from the test.

At a Los Angeles press conference last week Assemblymember Delaine Eastin, D-Fremont, a candidate for Superintendent of Schools, called for a March 16 legislative hearing on the issue in the Assembly Education Committee. "We need to determine what the grounds were for removing these items," Eastin said. "If the reasons were political, that is a cause for grave concern — political correctness, whether it comes from the left or from the right, has no place in California public education."

Eastin was joined by leaders of the California Federation of Teachers, the National Writers Union, People for the American Way and United Teachers-Los Angeles. The test the TVC objects



Banned writer Alice Walker.

(Photo: Jean Weisinger)

to is part of the newly instituted California Learning Assessment System (CLAS), which measures student performance in major academic subjects such as reading, writing, mathematics, history and social science. CLAS will replace the old California Assessment Program testing and does not rely on multiple

choice tests but on problem solving and analytical skills along with writing samples, which will indicate the student's ability to think and to understand a given subject.

"Political correctness, whether it comes from the left or from the right, has no place in California public education."
— Delaine Eastin, D. Fremont

choice tests but on problem solving and analytical skills along with writing samples, which will indicate the student's ability to think and to understand a given subject.

However, Sheldon said her group not only objected to the content of the story "Roselily," but to test instructions asking students to explain their feelings about the story. The TVC objects to the

new testing system in general because it believes it emphasizes emotions and not intellect.

Jessie Greenman, co-chair of Project 21, the GLAAD watchdog group on educational issues, said, "It's not at all surprising that this has happened, but at the same time it is outrageous. One of the functions of education is to read good literature, examine it critically and discuss it. The TVC and the rest of their ilk are taking out the challenge, the excitement of education and making it boring. I would hope the American Civil Liberties Union would get involved. We need to see some progress in resisting the assault of theocracy on our lives. Kids and adults have to know there are many gods, many religions, many Bibles — that's a fact. It is offensive and oppressive that Beverly Sheldon can get away with what she did. Shame on Susie Lang and shame on Dave Dawson. We need someone in that office with the guts and sense to protect our democracy from the encroachment of the theocrats." ▼

The Wrong God

"Roselily" is a story about a black, Christian rural Mississippi woman who is being married to a Muslim. The following excerpt is the one TVC finds objectionable.

"...She cannot always be a bride and a virgin, wearing robes and veil. Even now her body itches to be free of satin and voile... She wonders what it will be like. Not to have to go to a job. Not to work in a sewing plant... Her place will be in the home, he has said, repeatedly, promising her rest she has prayed for. But now she wonders. When she has rested, what will she do? They will make babies — she thinks practically about her fine brown body, his strong black one. They will be inevitable. Her hands will be full. Full of what? Babies. She is not comforted."

In another excerpt the woman wonders about her husband's God and uses the phrase, "the wrong God." When she thinks of her marriage "she thinks of ropes, chains, handcuffs, his religion." ▼

World News

APLA Gets \$5,000 by Court Order

Since landlord Greg Legmann of Beverly Hills is a first time offender, Los Angeles City Attorney James Hahn allowed him to pay the bulk of his \$5,307 in fines to a charity. On Feb. 28 Hahn presented AIDS Project Los Angeles executive director James Loyce with a check for \$5,000. Legmann pleaded no contest to health, fire, and safety code violations at his 40-unit apartment complex in Hollywood. — Karen Ocam

Ontario to Extend Benefits to Same Sex Spouses

TORONTO, March 1 (UPI) — The Ontario government will require private employers to offer health benefits to gay couples beginning in April. Under the law, companies must provide same-sex spouses with a wide range of health benefits, a move businesses are saying will be an "intolerable burden."

Portuguese Company to Battle Wellcome

LISBON (UPI) — A small Portuguese pharmaceutical company says it will challenge British multinational Wellcome's claimed patent on the drug AZT, used to help treat AIDS patients. Farma APS says it will distribute a Canadian drug "identical" to Wellcome's but "significantly cheaper."

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Southern comfort

After continued threats and harassment by locals and religious leaders, volunteers at Camp Sisterspirit in Overt, Miss., resorted to building a perimeter fence around the property to keep out intruders. In a related development sure to shake the townsfolk out of the magnolias, the Lesbian Avengers have promised to travel to Mississippi to aid camp founders Brenda and Wanda Henson.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

San Jose Gays Move to Oust Cole

by Dennis Conkin

Lesbian and gay activists in San Jose's District 8 are working with a broad-based coalition that is calling for the recall of Kathy Cole as a member of the San Jose City Council.

Cole has enraged residents with racist and bigoted remarks against a variety of minority groups, including Asian Americans, Hispanics and lesbians and gays.

Cole's remarks included comments made in a videotaped speech last year. She referred to Hispanics as "pit bulls," criticized lesbian and gay political power and mocked Asian Americans by pulling the sides of her eyes to narrow slits when she referred to them in her remarks.

Cole was formally and unanimously reprimanded by the San Jose City Council for the bizarre episode amidst a call by another City Council member for her resignation.

More than 6,000 signatures have been collected to qualify the initiative for a special San Jose District election that will be held April 12, according to Kim Walt, a member of Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee and a lesbian activist.

"It's really important that we have a recall coalition," Walt told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "If people think it's the gay community against Kathy Cole, other communities could very well move away from it."

"BAYMEC knew there would be problems with Cole from the beginning," Walt said. "We tried to meet with her but she wouldn't meet, so we knew from day one she was going to be a problem."

Cole has previously said in news reports that God told her to enter the race for council member, and that God will tell her when to leave.

Cole has received strong support from land developers interested in the undeveloped

area in the foothills of the Evergreen District, and has raised \$40,000 in contributions to retain her seat.

Recall efforts have raised an estimated \$60,000, accord-

ing to Walt. ▼

For more information about the recall efforts contact the Evergreen Committee to Recall Cole at 408-238-7828.

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House Members Say They Don't Discriminate

by Bob Roeher

Washington — 225 members of the U.S. House of Representatives have said they will not discriminate against gays and lesbians in hiring their own staffs. The survey was conducted by the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) and released at a February 25 news conference.

Tim McFeeley, HRCF executive director, said the response "was greater than we expected." He viewed this as an ongoing process where members will continue to add their names to the list.

"We just felt that once we hit a majority we should tell the American people that a majority of members of the House of Representatives were with them in denouncing discrimination." (74 percent of Americans oppose anti-gay job discrimination according to a recent *Newsweek* poll.)

Those signing the non-discrimination statement included Speaker Tom Foley (D-WA), Majority Leader Richard Gephardt (D-MO), Minority Leader Bob Michel (R-IL), and all members of the Congressional Black Caucus. The total stands at 172 Democrats, 52 Republicans, and one Independent.

McFeeley cautioned against drawing any conclusions about those who have not signed the non-discriminatory pledge. It could mean slowness or inattention by staff, or an ideological

prejudice against such types of statements, as much as a bias against lesbians and gays.

When specifically asked about Republican leaders, Minority Whip Newt Gingrich (R-GA), and Richard Arenen (R-TX), McFeeley cited their statements in that morning's edition of the *Washington Post*. The two had stated their existing broadly defined anti-discrimination policies.

"I think that is fine," said McFeeley. "I wish they could be more specific and understand that when you are a lesbian or gay employee you need that very explicit language." He encouraged them to "refine and specify" their non-discrimination policies.

This saga began last October when three members of the Oklahoma congressional delegation told the *Tulsa World* that they would not hire an openly gay person for their staff. The homo-hatred and loathing was clearly bipartisan.

"I don't think an overtly gay person should be a role model," said Republican Jim Inhofe. For Democrat Bill Brewster, "I just don't think it is normal behavior. That should tell you what my feeling is."

The news account prompted a closeted staff aide to one of the homophobes to grant a background interview to the *World*. "Lawmakers need to realize when they make such

statements they may be making them about someone they work with every day, someone they may trust in a key position," said the staffer. That fed the story and led to attempts to uncover the identity of the staff member.

Some labeled it a witch hunt

It was at that point that HRCF launched its project with a letter to members of the House. (The process was expanded to the Senate in early February and will be reported at a later date.) It was, as much as anything, an educational effort to build a foundation of support for the lesbian and gay civil rights bill.

Daniel Zingale, chief lobbyist for HRCF, says the group did a lot of follow-up to that initial letter, more letters, rounds of phoning, faxing, and scheduling visits wherever possible.

On the one hand, he found it often difficult to get the attention of members and staff because, he says, "When they are not dealing with a vote they have no urgency, no reason to focus on it." But to those who did give it attention, the reaction was extraordinary.

"I have never seen an issue where the members themselves took such a personal interest in it. They took it I think, personally, in terms of questions about their own prejudice or lack of prejudice. There were really a lot of



Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.)

members initiating calls here. Even those who didn't end up signing wanted to talk about it. They wanted to make it clear they weren't bigots."

Steve Gunderson (R-WI), "took our statement at the top of the page, with twelve blank spaces at the bottom and he went around and got twelve of his Republican colleagues (to sign), including some like the toughest ones," said Zingale. The dozen included people like Randy Cunningham (R-CA), Dan Miller (R-FL), and others who have received a zero rating from HRCF for their past votes.

Carlos Moorhead (R-CA), very conservative and the ranking member of the Energy committee, initiated a call to HRCF. Zingale recalls the conversation well, in that they "found common ground." Moorhead said he would never discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation — but he wouldn't say that officially. "He just didn't see the appropriateness of making it official," Zingale said with frustration.

Zingale asked for meetings

with the three Oklahoma congressmen who made the statements that set off the project. He ran into a brick wall with the two Republicans.

Democrat Brewster agreed to a meeting, in which he said his district was very conservative and he felt that his views were probably in line with them, according to Zingale.

Kweisi Mfume (D-MD), chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, "took it to heart that they wanted 100 percent of the Caucus," said Zingale. And he delivered.

Mfume has been a particularly strong advocate for the lesbian and gay community. In a recent appearance on *Nightline* he always included and condemned homophobia in the list of hate and fear mongering by Kalid Muhammad of the Nation of Islam. On the floor of the House he chided a resolution decrying Muhammad for its failure to denounce the homophobia as well as the anti-semitism of the speech.

To Zingale, "The point of this (statement) is to lay the foundation for actual civil rights legislation, maybe starting with employment, to get them to think about where they stand on the issue of discrimination in hiring. And to do something publicly to express their position."

McFeeley warns, "There is a difference between a member saying, 'this is what I will do as a private employer,' versus imposing that requirement on private employers." So we should not assume that because a majority of the House is willing to sign this statement, they will also be willing to vote for a law offering employment protection to lesbians and gays. But he can only be "encouraged" by this step.

Unity

(Continued from page 1)

sponses.

The meeting will also provide groups with an opportunity to share their agenda and efforts with each other and to network about common problems and brainstorm solutions, Anchor said.

"From the input I've received, it looks like it's going to be a productive meeting.

"It's an open meeting to discuss the attacks on us from various fronts and how we can effectively and appropriately respond."
- Cliff Anchor.

I'm pretty hopeful that we will be able to develop a better coordinated response among the groups, so that we're all not running off in multiple directions," Anchor said.

The meeting will also include information about the right wing's political agenda and strategies around the state, including a failed school voucher ballot initiative and ongoing debates about textbook censorship. ▼

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Discrimination Lawsuit Filed Against Cosmetic Surgeon

by Dennis Conkin

A San Francisco cosmetic surgeon's refusal to operate on a gay man with HIV will be the subject of an AIDS discrimination lawsuit to be filed in San Francisco Superior Court this week.

The lawsuit charges that Dr. David L. Kahn of One Daniel Burnham Court, who has a private cosmetic surgery practice and also operates the Cosmetic Surgery Information and Medical Center, violated federal and state laws banning discrimination against people with AIDS.

The suit by John Roe, the pseudonym of a gay man with HIV, alleges that Kahn's refusal to operate on the man violated the federal Americans With Disabilities Act and the state's Unruh Civil Rights Act as well as the city's Human Rights Ordinance that bans discrimination against people with HIV in public accommodations and services.

Roe has filed the suit under a pseudonym because, he says, the issues in the suit are more important than any public notoriety or press interest in sensationalizing the facts of the case.

"My first contact with Dr. Kahn's office about the surgery was on July 29 last year. It was an initial visit to discuss and schedule the surgery. I made a \$500 deposit. At that point I was required to get a physical and I did that a couple of days later. I'm very healthy and the results were fine," Roe told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Roe had made the surgery appointment for an cosmetic eyelift procedure.

"I went back on October 29 for the scheduled pre-op visit. At that point I was handed a prescription which said that I must have four

blood tests and one of them was an HIV test. I consented to the three other blood tests because they were about white blood cell counts and sedimentation rates. I refused to have the HIV test because I said it wasn't relevant to the surgery," Roe said.

Roe said when he declined the test, that Kahn kept insisting that the test was relevant, and that all of the patients in the cosmetic surgery practice had to have the HIV test.

"Before I left that office, I told him I would sue on behalf of every person who was ever been denied medical services because of their HIV status."
—John Roe

"I'm in excellent health. I didn't see what difference my HIV status made and I said so," Roe said. "He said they had to protect themselves and their patients."

"I asked him what he needed protection from and didn't they sterilize their instruments and exercise care in the operating room. He said of course, but said again that they had to protect themselves."

"At that point, I said,

"Look, you need to understand that I am HIV positive and have been HIV positive for over 8 years," Roe told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Roe said that Kahn then told him that perhaps they'd better rethink the surgery and then dropped a bombshell by informing Roe that he didn't operate on people with HIV.

Such discrimination is illegal under the American With Disabilities Act, according to attorney Ben Schatz, director of American Association of Physicians For Human Rights, a gay and lesbian physicians' group.

"The sad truth is that this sort of discrimination is all too common," Schatz said. "Discrimination against people with HIV occurs all too frequently in the medical profession," Schatz said. "But, it's still clearly illegal."

Roe said the central theme of the lawsuit is the right of

people with HIV to have the same access to medical services as everyone else.

"Before I left that office, I told him I would sue on behalf of every person who was ever been denied medical services because of their HIV status," Roe said.

"I would really like people to push past their irrational fear of HIV and to understand it's possible to live a full and rewarding and long and happy life regardless of their HIV status," Roe said.

Roe said he knows that's a heretical point view in some circles and that people with HIV are "expected to crawl away and get sick and die in some corner where nobody's around," but he chooses not to live his life that way.

"I'm making a statement that I intend to live a long time and look good doing it," he said.

The lawsuit will be filed by Paul Wotman of the Law Offices of Arnold Laub. ▼

Who's Fighting for Gay Vets And Vets with HIV? The VFHR.

by David Batterson

PORTLAND — Veterans for Human Rights (VFHR), a grassroots group formed in late 1992 to lobby the White House to allow open gays/lesbians in the military, has broadened its battle plans to include advocating on behalf of PWAs and HIV-positive individuals who are veterans.

Under the leadership of Mary Ann Humphrey (author of *My Country, My Right To Serve*) and veterans Frank Dixon, Anders Winther, and Barbara Eichberger, VFHR works actively with The Campaign for Military Service, Human Rights Campaign Fund, the Gay Lesbian Bisexual Veterans Association, and Portland's Support Our Communities PAC.

As VFHR Acting President Winther put it, "During our relatively short period in existence, we've gained respect and support from human dignity advocates at the local, regional and national levels, and by many of our elected

officials at all levels."

Winther added that "as we've recognized here in Portland, we have people participating solely for the camaraderie. Others with AIDS are struggling for their lives and need assistance in developing or maintaining a support structure. And others continue to be actively involved with the social justice issues of ending discrimination in our society."

At its first annual Sgt. Johnnie Phelps Awards Dinner, VFHR honored former Army Sergeant Phelps, who served in the European Theater during WWII as an aide to General Dwight Eisenhower. Phelps was the WAC who, when asked by Ike to compile a list of known lesbians in the battalion, told Eisenhower that her name "would be at the top of the list." Eisenhower then dropped the matter.

In accepting her award, Phelps said that "one must hold onto their integrity, be honest, be proud, and com-

municate to learn more about other people, and their lifestyle and goals." Donna Red Wing received one of the fun door prizes: a military fruitcake left over from Operation Desert Storm.

The Gay Veterans Association of New York sent a proclamation that was read at the dinner. "Tonight you recognize those who have taken a stand for the liberty, freedom, and justice of lesbian, gay, and bisexual veterans and service personnel," it said in part.

Winther said "parallel to the gay ban issue, we're working on issues permitting military recruiting and ROTC programs being conducted at academic institutions that include sexual orientation language in their non-discrimination policies. Our continuing question to them is: why are you conducting business with an entity [the military] that continues to discriminate against gay, lesbian and bisexual citizens?" ▼

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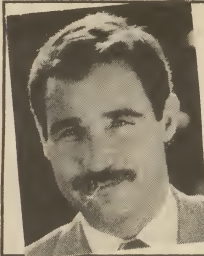
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Pancy Division
Lesbian/Gay Chorus of
San Francisco
The Sick & Twisted Players
Patsy Cline & The Memphis
G Spots

OUTSTANDING DANCE GROUP/INDIVIDUAL

Contraband
Keith Hennessy
Joe Good Performance Group
Convenience Boy -
Produced by Cal Performances
Pussy Tourette

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY WELL BEING

San Francisco Center for Living
Orchidmania
The Most Holy Redeemer AIDS
Support Group

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION — WOMEN'S COMMUNITY

Roma Guy
Susan Kennedy
Chris Puccinelli
Rev. Jane Adam Spohr
Sherilyn Thomas

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION — MEN'S COMMUNITY

Gerald Lenior
Donald Montwill
Tom Rodgers
Alan Selby
Terry Thompson

OUTSTANDING SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR

Bowling
Debbie Carmona
Mel Coyle
Meri Hayos

Pool
Kim Kinker
Lisa Lewis
Theresa Oliver

Softball
Amy Alexander
Maureen Hogan
Mary Newman
Sherry Yarborough

Tennis
Robyn Fowler
Deborah Gordon
Donna McKinnon

OUTSTANDING SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR

Bowling
Pat Conlan
Don George
Tim Kneis

Pool
Benny Ray Clardy
Mark Miller
Geno Smith

Softball
Frank Bushnell
Rich Law
Curt Maanninga
Paul Olson

Tennis
Tony Finnerty
Doug Gammons
Gregg Gaubatz
Kevin Liberg
Carlos Terra

OUTSTANDING PARADE AWARDS

FLOATS
Out of Town
Oliva Records

In Town
A.I.D.S. Emergency Fund

MARCHING UNIT
Shanti Project

MOST INSPIRATIONAL
Parents and Friends of Lesbian and
Gays (PFLAG)

MOST OUTRAGEOUS
Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA)

OUTSTANDING COMPETITION EVENT (Public Vote)

International Mr. Drummer
Audrey Joseph and Desmodus
Production, Producers

Mr. San Francisco Leather
Audrey Joseph - Producer

Mr. and Miss Gay Asian Pacific
Gay Asian Pacific Alliance and
Steve Takamura Producers

Mr. and Miss Gay San Francisco
Imperial Board of Trustee's -
Producers

Nerd Contest At The Eagle
Skeeter - Producer

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY EVENT (Public Vote)

Opening day of Gay Softball
Gay Softball League - Producer

The Tenth Anniversary of Ward 86
Thank You Party at City Hall
Leslee Anglim and the Gap -
Producers

Folsom Street Fair
S.M.I.L.E. Board of Directors -
Producers

Halloween on Castro
Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence -
Producers

Castro Street Farewell Party for
Roberta Achtenberg
Byron McQuarters, Gwen Craig
and Randy Miller - Producers

OUTSTANDING EVENT (Public Vote)

Gay Rodeo
Golden State Gay Rodeo
Association, Bay Area Chapter -
Producer

Lift the Ban Weekend
Human Rights Campaign Fund -
Producers

The San Francisco Gay/Lesbian
Film Festival
FrameLine Productions

OUTSTANDING EVENT BY AN INDIVIDUAL OR SMALL BUSINESS (Public Vote)

Easter Basket Auction
Coits of San Francisco - Producers

LeatherWalk 93
Art Tomaszewski - Producer

Leather and Feathers
Eagle - Producer

Leather Elegance
Phillip Turner - Producer

Stormy Leather's Tenth
Anniversary Party
Stormy Leather and Jenne Blade -
Producers

OUTSTANDING THEME DECORATION

The San Francisco Eagle -
Christmas 93

The JackHammer - Halloween 93
Lily's - Christmas 93

The Motherlode - Christmas 93
Rawhide II - Christmas 93

Rhythm - Saturdays at
Pleasuredome

OUTSTANDING FUNDRAISER (Public Vote)

Oscar Night Gala
David Brunetti - Producer

Sixteenth Anniversary Pheonix
Motorcycle Club

Phoenix Motorcycle Club -
Producers

Performance of Our Lives
Artist Confronting
A.I.D.S. - Producer

OUTSTANDING COLUMNIST (Public Vote)

Dianne Aaronson -
Bay Area Reporter
Nancy Boutillier - *Bay Area Reporter*
Orland Outland - *Bay Area Reporter*
Dennis McMillan - *Sentinel*
Thom Bean - *Bay Times*
Madeline - *Odyssey*

OUTSTANDING JOURNALIST (Public Vote)

Dennis Conkin - *Bay Area Reporter*
Karen Ocamb - *Bay Area Reporter*
Tim Kingston - *Bay Times*
Tommi Ariccoli Mecca - *Bay Times*
Arturo Jackson - *Sentinel*
Michael Colubruno - *Sentinel*
Debra Oakly Melvin - *Sentinel*



OUTSTANDING CRITIC (Public Vote)

Don Baird - *Bay Times*
Eugene Price - *Bay Times*
Steve Warren - *Sentinel*
Warren Sonbert - *Sentinel*
Stephanie Von Buchau - *Sentinel*
Nina Donnelly - *Bay Area Reporter*
Rachel Pepper - *Bay Area Reporter*

OUTSTANDING EVENT — WOMEN'S COMMUNITY (Public Vote)

Celebration of Craftswomen
Women's Building, Producer
Breaking The Silence
Women's Building, Producer
An Evening To Support Women
With Cancer
Women's Cancer Resource Center
and Charlotte Maxwell
Complimentary Clinic, producers
Celebration of Harmony
Mariah Hansen & Page Hodel,
Producers

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION BY A WOMEN'S COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

International Miss Leather Inc.
Lesbian Visual Artists
Lyon-Martin Women's HIV
Program
National Center For Lesbian Rights
Woman Inc.

OUTSTANDING CLUB

Rhythm
Pleasuredome
The Box
Rawhide II
The Girl Spot
The Pit
Dekadance

OUTSTANDING DISC JOCKEY

Jerry Bonham - Pleasuredome
Alec Cunningham - Pleasuredome
Neon Leon - Rhythm
Spike - The Pit
J. J. Johnson - Rawhide II
Aaron O. - The Girl Spot
Chris C. - The Girl Spot
Downtown Donna - Faster Pussycat
Leo Brown - Eagle

ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR

Suzy Berger
Justin Bond
Connie Champagne
Leigh Crow
Arturo Galster
Pussy Tourette

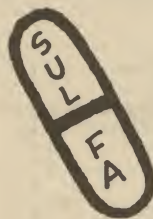
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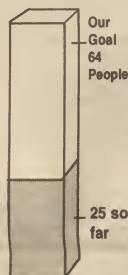
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Nevirapine Study

(limited number of spaces available)



Nevirapine is a drug that interferes with reverse transcriptase, the enzyme that introduces HIV genetic material into the DNA in your cells. It works differently than AZT and the other nucleoside inhibitors. Studies show that nevirapine is active against virus that has become resistant to AZT. Nevirapine has shown very little toxicity. This study is designed to compare nevirapine vs. placebo, alone or in combination with AZT, and the effects on T-cell counts after 3 and 6 months. There are two parts to this study, so that everyone who gets placebo in the first part will get active drugs in the second part, and free access to AZT for the duration of their participation in the study.

This study will recruit participants whose T-cell counts are between 200-500, and who have taken AZT for at least 4 months but no longer than 1 year. No prior ddI or ddC use is allowed. There are also limited spaces for participants who have never taken any anti-retroviral drugs.

For more information about this and other studies contact Mark Bowers at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco.

National News Profile

State Department: We're To Blame for Reno's AIDS Ban Mix-Up

by Michael Kirkland

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The State Department said Friday, February 25, a cable was mistakenly sent out to U.S. embassies saying the AIDS ban had been lifted for those foreigners with HIV who plan to attend Gay Games IV in New York.

Federal law, initiated during the Bush era, prohibits foreigners who are HIV-positive from entering the United States, but the attorney general can waive the ban for 30 days in special situations.

The State Department said the cable was prepared in case Attorney General Janet Reno lifted the ban, but Reno has said she was not even aware of the request.

"We here at State mistakenly sent out a cable that shouldn't have gone out yet," a State Department spokesperson said. "We were preparing a waiver for the field" in the department's computers, the spokesperson said.

The prepared cable was simply a precaution, according to the spokesperson, in case the attorney general used her discretionary power to lift the ban for 30 days.

"Somehow it got out by mistake and was transmitted to the field by mistake," he said.

The spokesperson said one media outlet apparently obtained the cable and ran the

story Wednesday night, and it was picked up later by other news organizations.

When asked whether the State Department is recommending that the ban be lifted, the spokesman said, "We really can't comment," especially since the Justice Department discussions about the issue are ongoing.

Meanwhile, Justice Department spokesman Carl Stern said Friday that Commissioner Doris Meissner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service has not received a recommendation from the State Department that the waiver be issued or denied.

The waiver recommendation "has not even been sent to the commissioner at INS, which is the first place it would go," Stern said.

Stern said Meissner would have to review the facts in the case, and then recommend to Reno that the waiver be issued or denied.

Thursday morning, Reno expressed surprise and some frustration when asked about



Attorney General Janet Reno was not "even aware of the issue."

the story at a news conference. She indicated she did not know how the story was spread.

Reno said she did not waive the ban as some news reports indicated and was not "even aware of the issue."

"Where did that come from?" Reno asked her aides.

"My father always told me not to believe everything you read in the newspapers," Reno said. The attorney general's father and mother were both reporters for Miami newspapers.

The Gay Games IV and Cultural Festival are scheduled for New York City June 18-25. ▼

Shaky Start for Oral HIV Tests

OraSure Flounders; Israelis Market; Experts Raise Counseling Concerns

by David Batterson

Epitope, Inc. of Beaverton, Oregon, is seeing more red ink as it attempts to get Food and Drug Administration approval to sell its controversial oral specimen collection device, OraSure, used to test for HIV-1 and HIV-2 antibodies.

Recently the FDA alleged that Epitope violated FDA regulations—specifically, that it contravened the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act four times—by disclosing information about the expected performance of the specimen-collection device.

The purpose of such regulations is to prevent drug and biotechnology companies from promoting their wares before the FDA gives the green light to market them. Epitope, however, doesn't feel the FDA action will affect the progress of their pre-market approval application for OraSure. The company has been waiting for FDA approval for well over a year.

The FDA did grant an export license for OraSure for use in other countries, particularly in the Third World where healthcare is limited.

Mica Smith, executive director of Cascade AIDS Project in Portland, and Dr. Bob McAlister, manager of the Oregon Health Division's HIV prevention program, have expressed reservations about OraSure. They both say there may be inadequate resources for counseling persons who test positive for HIV.

In a related matter, Epitope and stockbroker A. Karl Kipke reached an out-of-court settlement of a lawsuit Epitope had filed against Kipke, a vice president of a brokerage. Kipke admitted to posting bulletin board messages on PRODIGY that contained inaccurate information about the company.

"Our new Rapid Diagnostic Test takes two to three minutes, versus two to three hours for ELISA." — Dr. Yeshayahu Yakir, Healthcare Technologies.

Financial analysts have written that some biotech companies concentrate on issuing Initial Public Offerings (IPOs) to raise money, while their efforts to sell a product often have limited success. Stock profits for investors can be potentially huge from IPOs.

Epitope is still unprofitable, and recently sold off part of the company to raise more cash. Meanwhile, other

companies are developing their own testing devices and procedures.

Savoyon Diagnostics Ltd. in Israel, a subsidiary of Healthcare Technologies Ltd., has signed a manufacturing and distribution agreement with an unnamed U.S. corporation for its diagnostic kit that tests for HIV-1 and HIV-2 antibodies.

"Our new Rapid Diagnostic Test is extremely rapid, two to three minutes, versus two to three hours for the commonly used ELISA kit," said Dr. Yeshayahu Yakir, president of Healthcare Technologies. "Furthermore, ELISA positives are then retested, making the entire ELISA process four to six hours, versus our four to six minutes," Yakir said.

Yakir stated in his Business Wire news release that the kit has been successful in the U.S., South Africa, and Israel. "Our test is simple to perform, user-friendly, and above all, safe, reliable, and stable. The results are visually obvious to the operator, unequivocal, and require no equipment, or special skills."

"The correlation between our kit and the very expensive, definitive Western Blot confirmatory test was found to be identical, i.e., 100 percent in over 1,000 tests to date," Yakir continued. "Not only do we forecast saving medical technicians time and money on screening tests, but also saving the healthcare third party payers money on confirmatory tests." ▼

Reno Looks Back At Her Explosive First Year in Office

by Michael Kirkland

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Attorney General Janet Reno said Thursday, February 10, the most frustrating aspect of her job as she approaches her first-year anniversary in office has been the slow pace of nominations and senate confirmations for her top aides.

Reno was confirmed as attorney general last March after two other nominations were withdrawn because of problems with domestic help. She began her duties confronted with the long siege at a cult compound in Waco, Texas, and saw its fiery, suicidal end after she approved an FBI request to use tear gas to flush out cult members.

Reno is finishing her first year in office without anyone in place in the number two slot at the Justice Department. Deputy Attorney General Philip Heymann departed Friday because of what he and Reno called differences in management styles.

Reno has not yet named a replacement.

President Clinton's third choice to head the civil rights division, Deval Patrick of Boston, is facing tough criticism from conservatives on Capitol Hill.

Patrick's critics likened him to Clinton's first choice to head the civil rights division, Lani Guinier. Her nomination was withdrawn because of her controversial law review articles.

Clinton's second choice was corporate counsel John Payton of Washington, D.C., who was opposed by lesbian and gay rights groups and reportedly enjoyed little support from the Congressional Black Caucus. He never even reached the Senate, prompting the *Washington Post* to comment, "Time was when

the civil rights chief was a sought-after position. These days it's like peddling undercooked Jack-in-the-Box burgers in Seattle."

Thursday, Reno predicted Patrick would do well in confirmation hearings. She said Senators "are going to be delighted and proud" to vote for him.

The attorney general also said one high point in her first year are the appointments of outstanding people as U.S. attorneys nationwide.

Reno, responding to questions at her weekly news conference, said she feels she has brought to the job her experience of 15 years as a prosecutor on "the streets of America," experience she feels gives her a practical approach.

Reno was a Dade County, Florida prosecutor before being tapped by Clinton to be attorney general.

The three strike proposal

Reno also said Thursday the Justice Department still hasn't toughened the "three strikes and you're out" proposal, though she has seen several versions.

The proposed policy would jail a criminal for life if the offender's third violent felony breaks federal law. The life sentence would apply even if the previous two felonies broke only state laws.

A high-level Justice Department meeting was held last week on the proposal, but Reno — who has advocated variations of the policy since the mid-1980s — said she was still looking for more information on the issue.

Last year, the Senate passed its version of the crime bill that included a "three strikes" provision. But that version, introduced by Republican senator Trent

Lott of Mississippi, limits the federal violent felonies in the provision to crimes committed against federal officials, on federal property or on the high seas, or to racketeering violence.

Reno said last month that the Justice Department would try to come up with language that would make "three strikes" policy more effective.

Thursday, she said the eventual Justice Department proposal will "make sure that we focus on the truly violent offenders."

Reno said the department wants to avoid applying the policy to someone who may have committed a couple of violent felonies in barroom fights as a teenager, then commits a third violent felony 50 years later.

If a limited time period is agreed upon for "three strikes" felonies, Reno said, the Justice Department is still trying to determine whether that period should include prison time.

President Clinton adopted the "three strikes" proposal as part of his anti-crime initiative during his State of the Union address last month.

The Clinton initiative also includes more police on the streets, more prison space and boot camps and treatment for young offenders, all reflected in the 1995 budget Clinton proposed earlier this week. ▼

MARK DENZIN, LICENSED ACUPUNCTURIST

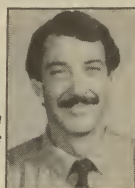
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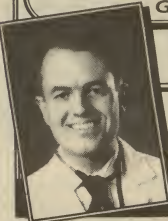
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PWHIV Kicks Off Portland City Council Race

by David Batterson

PORTLAND — Attorney Fred Neal, treasurer during 1992's anti-OCA, No on 9 Campaign, parted with about 500 friends and supporters at his kickoff dinner Friday, January 21 at the elegant Benson Hotel. Neal is seeking the Portland City Council seat currently held by Earl Blumauer.

Neal, former director of Intergovernmental Relations for Multnomah County, has also been a board member of the Right To Privacy Political Action Committee (RTP PAC), and the ACLU of Oregon. The openly gay 44-year-old Portland lawyer is HIV-positive, but remains asymptomatic of AIDS.

In a previous campaign statement, Neal said that "our primary mission must be to protect our quality of life as a community. The core essentials that define our quality of life are a healthy and growing economy, a clean environment, safe and livable neighborhoods, and respect and tolerance for others."

"We must also recognize that divisiveness, mistrust, and intolerance tear apart the fabric of our community," he

said. "We cannot let that happen."

Neal's legal career began in 1976, when he was appointed deputy legislative counsel for the Oregon Legislative Assembly. His other positions have included executive director of the State Court Finance Action Committee, legal counsel to the League of Oregon Cities, and city prosecutor for the City of Gresham, a Portland suburb.

Neal received the ACLU of Oregon's Civil Liberties Award in 1992 for his activism on human rights issues. He served four years on the RTP PAC board; RTP PAC is Oregon's largest and oldest gay/lesbian civil rights organization.

Neal's hobbies include the restoration of his historic home in the Irvington neighborhood of Southeast Portland, which he shares with partner Tim Atkinson. Atkinson, also HIV-positive, is acting campaign manager.

Neal can be contacted through the Families & Friends for Fred Neal Committee, P.O. Box 2518, Portland, OR 97208-2518; telephone: (503) 284-6384; fax: (503) 222-2654. ▼



Steve Simon, President

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that will pay you the most, but someone who will pay the broker the most. Think about that! And who are these "funding sources" that they are sending your personal and confidential medical records to? Someone you can check out? Someone you can trust? Someone you would want owning your life insurance policy?

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New Crime Proposal: Three Strikes and You're Branded

United Press International

SACRAMENTO—A Sonoma County resident is circulating a proposed ballot measure that would require violent felons on parole to receive fluorescent facial implants of half-inch numbers so they could be easily identified as criminals.

The proposal from Norman Bedford of Healdsburg would compel many convicts to obtain red, fluorescent numerical implants on their face before being released from prison.

Bedford said his measure would help residents easily identify convicted criminals in their community. The initiative would also establish a

24-hour toll-free hotline that would provide callers with information on what crimes the parolees had committed.

Bedford must gather 385,000 valid signatures by July 22 to qualify the measure for the November ballot.

If it is approved by voters, a first-time violent offender released from prison would undergo a minor surgical procedure to place a numerical implant below the right eye that could be removed after one year.

Second-time offenders would have to wear numbers under the right eye and on the left cheek for up to 20 years.

Parolees with three convictions for violent crimes would

be forced to wear three sets of numbers under their right eye, on their left cheek and on their forehead. Judges could compel the habitual criminals to wear the implants until death.

In an effort to protect the criminals, the measure would make it a misdemeanor to harass parolees with implants, but civil libertarians denounced the proposal as unconstitutional and unjust.

The American Civil Liberties Union said the proposal would probably be struck down as unconstitutional cruel and unusual punishment and an invasion of privacy if it was ever approved by voters. ▼

Gay Mag Exposes Fundies in Ohio

by Jonathan Jay Gibian

COLUMBUS, Ohio (UPI) — A complaint has been filed with the Ohio Elections Commission, claiming a Colorado group that financed an anti-gay rights issue in Cincinnati last year is actually a political action committee and should be forced to disclose its contributors.

The complaint was filed by Joshua Thomas, publisher of an Ohio gay newspaper, who says the group, called Colorado for Family Values,

8,000-circulation newspaper *Gaybeat*, also said the Colorado group violated Ohio election laws by not listing individual contributors on a campaign finance report.

The Colorado for Family Values organization is also being investigated by the Colorado attorney general for failing to register as a PAC in that state, while engaging in political activity.

But Will Perkins, chairman of Colorado for Family Values, told the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* his group is a nonprofit organization and not a political action committee.

Perkins, however, refused to identify contributors to his group and also refused to estimate how many members it has. Instead, Perkins said his organization is being harassed for opposing "special civil rights" for gay citizens.

"We go through this harassment all the time," he told the *Plain Dealer*. "They play their little games, the homosexual proponents."

Colorado for Family Values led the 1992 Colorado campaign to prohibit discrimination protection for gay residents of that state and supplied about \$390,000 of the \$491,773 used for the Cincinnati anti-gay rights campaign.

The elections commission scheduled a hearing on Thomas' complaint for later this month. ▼

"They play their little games, the homosexual proponents."

— Will Perkins, Colorado for Family Values

violated Ohio's election laws by not registering as a PAC.

The organization conducted a successful campaign last November to repeal a Cincinnati ordinance that extended discrimination protection to that city's gay and lesbian residents.

Thomas, publisher of the

Gay Officer Barred From Suing

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — A federal appeals court ruled Friday the Air Force cannot be sued by a former officer who was discharged after police found evidence of homosexual activity during an unrelated search of his home in 1988.

The U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals decided unanimously that the military was immune from suit for violating the Fourth Amendment rights of Kenneth Jackson,

then a lieutenant colonel at Norton Air Force Base in San Bernardino County.

Military police officers entered Jackson's home and detained him while they looked for evidence implicating his housemate in an alleged sex crime.

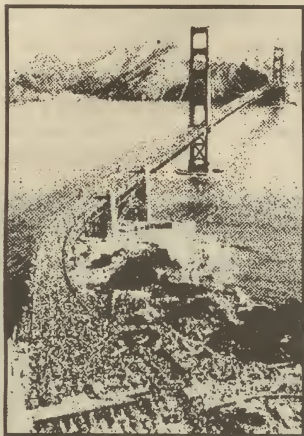
The court said the military police actions were related to Air Force service and qualified for immunity under a 1950 Supreme Court ruling limiting the right of active

military service members to sue their superiors, even when constitutional rights were violated.

Jackson claimed the search, which was conducted by local police investigating charges that his housemate had molested two teenagers, was illegal as it applied to him and that the military's legal immunity should not apply because the search did not relate to his own service career. ▼

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Cal. Co. Drops Claim "AAIS-1" Strengthens The Immune System

United Press International

LOS ANGELES — The directors of a San Gabriel Valley company that manufactures and distributes herbal products agreed Thursday, February 24, to drop claims that one of its products helps in the treatment of AIDS.

Under the terms of the settlement signed by Los Angeles Superior Court Commissioner Murray Gross, Dr. William Chang and his wife, Eugenia, also agreed to pay \$72,000 in civil penalties.

Deputy District Attorney Leslie Hanke said Chang and his wife are corporate directors of Herbal Science International and the Jen On Pharmaceutical Enterprises Corp., which manufactures and distributes herbal products.

In January 1993, the state Department of Health Services launched an investigation after learning the Changs were marketing a product

called "AAIS-1" which they said helped in treating AIDS.

The investigation "revealed that numerous unsubstantiated medical claims were being made in association with herbal preparations," Hanke said.

Those claims included that the herbal preparation "had an effect on such conditions as cancer, tumors, arthritis and disorders of the immune system," she said.

Prosecutors claimed that the Changs said the product "strengthened the immune system, had a synergistic effect with (the AIDS drug) AZT and showed no toxic side effects."

Hanke said the literature on "AAIS-1" also said pharmacological testing had been done on the product, "when in fact, the scientific testing that had been completed was preliminary and was altogether insufficient to substantiate the claims made." ▼

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Steam-y Town Meeting on Sex Clubs

by Jim Provenzano

Over 100 people attended a town hall meeting at the Women's Building February 24 to discuss safe and unsafe sexual behavior among gay and bisexual men in San Francisco, and the role sex clubs play in helping or hindering the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

Sponsored by *Steam*, a quarterly magazine that reviews sex clubs and cruising grounds around the world, and *sPuNK*, which lists sex clubs in major cities, the forum, "Who Makes the Rules?" included Giuliano Nieri of the San Francisco Health Department's Epidemiology unit; Tracey Packer, an educator at the Health Department; Dan Wohlfeiler of The Stop AIDS Project; Rick Treadway, an outreach worker at 18th Street Services; Demetres Munford of the Brothers Network; and Pansy, sex club reviewer for *Steam* and *Betty & Pansy's Severe Queer Review*.

The two-hour meeting, which included comments by audience members, was moderated by Ellen La Pointe, an AIDS activist with ACT UP Golden Gate and an AIDS and cancer educator.

Although many issues were raised about HIV transmission, the issue that hovered over the meeting was the closure of sex clubs and the Health Department's re-

sponsibility in these actions. While light-hearted comments were made about "Sex Police," the issue was calmly deflected by Packer, who explained the only recent sex club closure, Father Frank's Church, was because of fire code violations, lighting problems, and selling of alcoholic beverages. "Everyone deserves safety," Packer said, saying that not only did that include safe sex, but fire and building code safety.

Packer responded to questions about the Health Department's position on the existence of sex clubs. "We, the AIDS Office, believe that sex clubs are an excellent place for HIV prevention education to take place."

One audience member spoke at length about First Amendment rights, considering an outreach worker's intervention in unsafe sex as a constitutional infringement, to which 18th Street Services' Treadway responded. "It's possible to get the message across in a non-intrusive way. There's an idea out there that people who do safe sex education are...sex police. It's a really negative term."

Wohlfeiler added that "we have an epidemic out there," and if people were offended by safe sex outreach work, that was too bad. "We need to confront each other when it comes to unsafe sex," he said.

Treadway raised the important point that safer sex practices are also for HIV positive people as well. Since

"there are many strains of the virus," they are at risk of re-infection.

Although the panelists attempted to maintain an air of professional remove, the issues of safe sex were personal. Treadway, who frequents sex clubs for his outreach work, described the fine line between suggesting that while observing two men having unsafe sex, they should be advised to use a condom, it is their own decision to be unsafe, and as Treadway said, "not my cross to bear."

Pansy added that since he prefers his anonymous sex in the wilderness, where water, condoms and toys are often unavailable, he prefers heavy petting, a very safe activity.

Munford of the Brothers Network described his own personal frustration in doing outreach to men of color. He hit close to a reason for unsafe sex, in that many men go to notorious cruising grounds like Golden Gate Park's "windmills walk" because they don't know about the opportunities for discussion.

"Before you go out there hanging condoms on trees, you have to talk to these people," Munford said. "We do sneaky things because we're not allowed to be who we are."

Issues of self-repression came up in answer to questions about why people knowingly engage in unsafe sex. Nieri cited a survey with alarming answers, including, "I don't care," "The condom



broke,' and 'I was raped or coerced.'

The responsibility of the Health Department and sex clubs in providing condoms was contested by Wohlfeiler, who said that if men were able to spend money on admission, transportation and other costs to go to sex clubs, they could at least make the further expense of buying condoms. He also stressed however, that his agency would continue to provide condoms in spaces as often as was financially possible.

And although the outreach workers noted an increase in safer activity, and the recent reports of a decline in AIDS cases among gay men can be used as evidence of successful outreach and prevention efforts, one young Latino man from San Mateo AIDS Services decried the complete lack of outreach workers or monitors at three sex clubs he attended last week.

A brief debate over poppers stirred up as well, with one audience member accusing the B.A.R. of running poppers ads, while another raised the point of Supervisor Susan Leal's proposed bill that would make opening a bottle of poppers in a public space a crime with a punishment of up to six months.

While Packer and others expressed disagreement with the proposed law, Nieri reiterated studies which proved that amyl nitrate plays "a substantial risk factor in immune suppression."

Some of the panel members are also part of the Coalition for Healthy Sex, which includes owners of sex clubs and AIDS prevention groups, who work to keep safer sex in clubs. The meeting coincided with a weekend conference of national sex club owners that was held in San Francisco.

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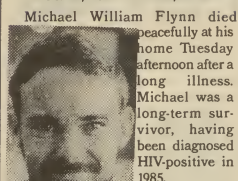
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Obituaries

Michael W. Flynn

Feb. 24, 1941 - Feb. 22, 1994



Michael William Flynn died peacefully at his home Tuesday afternoon after a long illness. Michael was a long-term survivor, having been diagnosed HIV-positive in 1985.

He is survived by a sister, Joan Swanson; a brother, Martin Flynn; and friend and companion, Darryl Brooks. He will be especially missed by longtime friends, Samuel Smith, Joseph Evesizer, Steven Poplar, Michael Berg, Ron Wizelman, and his dog Yaari.

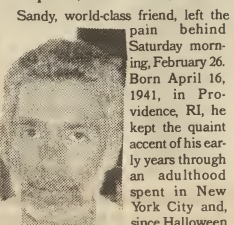
Michael was born in Sutter County and attended St. Pius X Seminary, then went on to complete his bachelor of science degree in psychology at U.C. Berkeley. After serving three years in the Army, including one year in Vietnam, he returned to become one of the original founders of Fibrec, Inc., and co-owned Brooks & Flynn, Inc., both successful dye and chemical distribution companies.

No one who was fortunate enough to encounter Michael ever walked away not liking this man. Michael's gentle demeanor combined with his verve and passion for life was the inspiration for the naming of the AIDS Life Center.

There will be a memorial celebration honoring his life at the Columbarium (located at 1 Loraine Ct. off Anza between Arguello and Sianyan) in San Francisco, Saturday, March 5, at 1 p.m.

Sanford Gary Wilkes

April 16, 1941 - Feb. 26, 1994



Sandy, world-class friend, left the pain behind Saturday morning, February 26. Born April 16, 1941, in Providence, RI, he kept the quaint accent of his early years through an adulthood spent in New York City and, since Halloween

Even 1978, in San Francisco. He grand passion was travel; Australia was the only unexplored continent. It was never a solitary pleasure. Effortlessly, he persuaded friends to join him on journeys and experiences they will cherish.

Sandy was a pacifist and a gentleman. While his manner seemed courtly, he refused the pretensions of "dressing up" or "showing off."

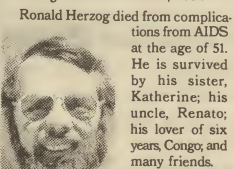
He savored good food, music, conversation, and men. He could not abide bad manners or intolerance and reserved an especially acid tongue for a deserving few such as drivers inconsiderate of pedestrians' rights.

While he might express opinions with passionate intensity, his infectious laughter and ready giggle lightened any awkward moments.

An extended family of friends and lovers on both coasts, as well as his beloved pets, Ida and Wilson, deeply miss a uniquely loyal and sensitive man. We love you, sweet Sandy. Shalom.

Ronald Herzog

Aug. 25 1942 - Feb. 19, 1994



Ronald Herzog died from complications from AIDS at the age of 51. He is survived by his sister, Katherine; his uncle, Renato; his lover of six years, Congo; and many friends.

Ron was born in Brooklyn and raised in Long Island. He graduated from Dartmouth College and received a master of arts in teaching from Wesleyan University. He worked as a teacher and social worker, then moved to California in 1973.

Ron had numerous interests. He enjoyed the theatre and acted in 15 plays, mostly in community theatre in Santa Barbara. Also an avid theatre-goer, he attended over 100 Broadway plays.

Ron was one of the founders of the San Francisco Trojans (touch) football team, was the head coach for a year, and was nominated for the Cable Car Award for this.

Ron like to travel extensively, but also enjoyed his sun deck, his beautiful

backyard, and raising orchids with his lover.

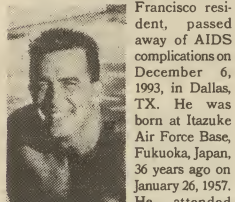
For the last 3-1/2 years of work, Ron taught special education at Jamestown Learning Center, an alternative high school. Because of his illness, he was forced to retire, but he continued to remain active. He presented a color photography exhibit at the Lone Star Saloon in May 1993.

Funeral services are scheduled for Saturday afternoon, March 26, 1-3 p.m., at the MCC San Francisco. Please provide live rather than cut flowers. If more information is needed, call Congo Moore, 158 Eureka St., at 431-8521. He will be missed, God bless. ▼

Henry G. Wiley

Jan. 26, 1957 - Dec. 6, 1993

Henry Grady Wiley, former San Francisco resident, passed away of AIDS complications on December 6, 1993, in Dallas, TX. He was born at Itazuke Air Force Base, Fukuoka, Japan, 36 years ago on January 26, 1957.



He attended schools in Bangkok, Thailand, Taipei, Taiwan, and Big Spring, Texas. He lived and worked in the Dallas area before arriving in San Francisco six years ago.

Grady loved life and had a way about him that endeared him to everyone he met. His rakish good looks and wicked sense of humor belied a very tender, compassionate, generous man who will be forever missed by all those whose lives he touched.

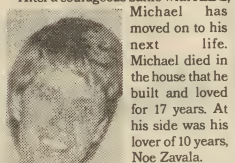
He is survived by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy C. Wiley Sr.; sisters, Claudia L. Fraught, Cynthia J. Goerlitz, and Christy L. Tenney; brothers, Jimmy C. Wiley Jr., John C. Wiley, and Thomas P. Wiley; 10 nieces and nephews; and numerous friends and loved ones.

Memorials should be made to the research on AIDS. ▼

Michael Ronald (Shelley Shots) Schols

March 7, 1956 - Feb. 21, 1994

After a courageous battle with AIDS, Michael moved on to his next life.



Michael died in the house that he built and loved for 17 years. At his side was his lover of 10 years, Noe Zavala.

Michael arrived in San Francisco in 1975 from Burlington, Wash., a tall, slender long-haired blond. He soon joined with friends and purchased and remodeled a house on 23rd Street, which gained international fame as a gathering place for gay men and featured wonderful hot-tub parties. Michael was a talented carpenter, plumber, and photographer. Michael served as the technical director for People's Theatre Coalition and Harriet Schiffer's Tour of Scandinavia. He was editor and president of Multi-Image Showcase and an extraordinary artistic director for PointFix, a movement theatre company.

Michael will be remembered for his wit, humor, and integrity. His spirit will be kept alive by his many friends here and abroad, by his parents, Margaret and Bill Schols, sister, Sharrie Nelson, brother, Brian; and many loving relatives. He is preceded in death by his brother, Tony. Michael will be celebrated at the annual Pisces party March 12!

On behalf of family and friends, we would like to give special thanks to the doctors and nurses at UCSF Mt. Zion Hospital in both Ward 5A North and the infusion center, the home nursing and technical staff, to Conant Medical Group and Dr. Virginia Cafaro.

Michael's place of rest will be Burlington, Wash., near his family. ▼

ning his doctorate in music from the University of Washington at Seattle. He was best known for dozens of effulgent compositions associated with the foundation of the avant-garde, including the score for Christopher Beck's acclaimed modern dance masterpiece *Critical Mass* (1984) and a fascinating composition, *Trinomicon* (1973), for inner piano first performed at the University of Arkansas, where he was associate professor of music for several years. He is less known in SF for his abstract expressionism paintings and text books in music theory published by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich.

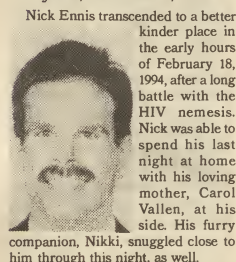
He is survived by one son, Joel A. Crounse; three brothers, Robert T. James H., and Frederick J. Howard; and fond and loving friend, Kenneth (Kiev) Pollock.

Aged 56, a native of Texas, his remains were scattered to sea off Fort Point on Feb. 27. Much of B's creative genius was fostered by his fascination with homosexual culture and color and an unwavering love for architecture, Virginia Woolf and W.A. Mozart. B was a resident of SF for 16 years.

Although B did not have AIDS, he wanted very much to help those who do. Contributions in his name can be made to Project Open Hand in SF or to a group in bad need, ASPWA, c/o Rick Ramsey, 207 N. Summit, Little Rock AR 72205. Notes to family and friends can be forwarded through this address. ▼

Nick Ennis

Jan. 6, 1961 - Feb. 18, 1994



Nick Ennis transcended to a better, kinder place in the early hours of February 18, 1994, after a long battle with the HIV nemesis. Nick was able to spend his last night at home with his loving mother, Carol Vallen, at his side. His furry companion, Nikki, snuggled close to him through this night, as well.

Nick was born in Akron, Ohio, and forevermore was stuck in the '60s. His favorite music were the tunes and dance steps of that era: the Twist, the Pony. His favorite TV shows were all the *Lucy* reruns and any horror film featuring a thing or a blob.

After attending Ohio State University, Nick began his professional career at Ohio State Hospital. Seeking a warmer climate, he migrated to Florida, where he continued his employment with Broward General Hospital. Nick arrived in San Francisco in 1984. He was initially seeking a career as a comic, but realistically settled for a job that employed his skills. His employment here began at St. Luke's Hospital and ended at California Presbyterian Medical Center.

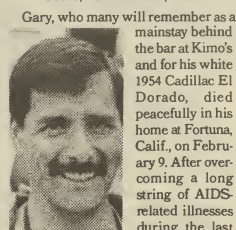
Nick is survived by his mother, Carol Vallen, his father, William Nicholas; his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Orsich; his best friend, Steven Keller; his faithful schnauzer, Nikki; and friends and friends and friends.

According to Nick's wishes, a bench will be installed in his memory in the lower meadow of Corona Heights for all the dog walkers to enjoy. A celebration of his life will take place on Corona Heights, east of the Randall Museum, at 2 p.m., on Sunday, March 13, 1994. Nick's ashes will be scattered in the warm waters off Florida.

Anyone wishing to express their loss may do so with a contribution to the AIDS Emergency Fund, 1540 Market Street, Suite 320, San Francisco, CA 94102, or their favorite AIDS charity. ▼

Gary L. Robinson

Oct. 5, 1945 - Feb. 9, 1994



Gary, who many will remember as a mainstay behind the bar at Kimo's and for his white 1954 Cadillac El Dorado, died peacefully in his home at Fortuna, Calif., on February 9. After overcoming a long string of AIDS-related illnesses during the last five years, he came to welcome his transition to his next form of being. His final hours were spent with his family and friends along with his longtime companion, Paul. There will be no formal services held, but a memorial will be held on his behalf in the latter part of March at his home. ▼

Bertrand Edgar Howard

February 18, 1994

Bertrand died in the City on February 18, 1994. "B" was a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, ear-

Obituaries

Talford "Josh" Higgs

June 14, 1967-Jan. 24, 1994

Josh transcended this world on January 24, 1994. Born in an unjust world, he overcame diversity and reunited siblings. He traveled to Florida months before he died to care for his mother and say goodbye to family, returning to the city he loved for comfort and support.

Josh will be remembered for his love of music, his passion for justice, wild motorcycle "trips" to the hills of Sonoma, and his commitment to other people with HIV disease. He is survived by his mother, sister Nina, other family members, and his many friends, Bill, Sal, Linda and family, David, Robert, Stephanie, Scott, Vincent and members of Bay Positives.

A memorial service will be held March 6 at Bay Positives, 518 Waller St., S.F. Donations may be sent to Scott Walker c/o Bay Positives. ▼

Steven D. Dewberry

Feb. 28, 1959-Feb. 18, 1994

Our friend Steven passed away on Friday, February 18, at Kaiser Hospital South San Francisco. He spent the last months of his life at home, cared for by his mother Gilda and sister Sheryl.

Funeral services were held on February 23 at Bayview Mortuary. Contributions may be made in memory of Steven to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

Steven was born and raised in San Francisco, where he attended Sacred Heart High School. He was a longtime employee of PG&E. When he was unable to work full-time, Steven remained active with social activities and traveling. He showed great strength and dignity in the four years of his illness.

Steven will be remembered for many things, including his love for theatre, (especially musicals) and his laugh. We could always count on Steven's laughter, even when the jokes weren't that funny. And we will continue to tell that infamous Halloween story in his honor.

Steven is survived by his mother, Gilda Brown; sister, Sheryl Brand; nephew, Marquis Brand; grandmother, Evelyn Walsh; and a large extended family. He will also be missed by many, many friends in the Bay Area and around the country.

We love you, Steve, and will always remember you! ▼

Gary Fisher

June 19, 1961-Feb. 22, 1994

At 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 22, Gary Fisher, 32, died quietly in his sleep with his younger sister, Luchina, by his side. This ended a nine-year struggle with HIV and AIDS that even his doctors were astounded had gone on so long.

Gary's sheer will to live and live well is what kept him alive.

Normally a closed person, he spent the last year of his life revealing some of who he was — his fears, his desires. He reached out to people he had previously turned away from, resolving old conflicts.

My sister and I would like to thank all the friends, social workers and medical staff — who, in some ways, were closer to him than the family — for all their help and support, especially when times got rough. A special thanks goes to Doug Sebesta for being such a super person.

Gary will live on in the many stories and essays that he wrote — some of which will soon be published — and in the memories of those close to him.

Contributions can be made in Gary's memory to the AIDS Emergency Fund. ▼

Michael E. Davis

April 3, 1955-Jan. 21, 1994

Michael Edward Davis, 38, of 609 Castro Street, San Francisco, died January 21, 1994, at Davies Medical Center.

He had been a resident of the area for three years and was employed by Crowley Maritime Corporation.

Mike was born April 3, 1955, in Sidney, New York. He graduated from Bainbridge-Guilford Central School in 1973. He served with the U.S. Navy from 1973 to 1975, where he studied data processing. He also completed computer courses from Syracuse School of Automation, Cimcon Systems, IBM, Platinum Technology and On-Line Software.

Surviving are his mother and stepfather, Joan and Paul Lane of Bridgewater, Va.; his father and stepmother, Harry and Shelia Davis of Guilford, NY; three sisters, Beth Davis of Norwich, NY; Sherry Wildenstein and Valerie Stafford of Unadilla, NY; one brother, Harry Jay Davis of Bainbridge, NY; two half-sisters, Jennifer and Janna Lake of Bridgewater, Va.; several step-siblings and one stepbrother; five nieces and one nephew.

Mike had many good friends in San Francisco, Atlanta, Ga.; and Houston, Texas.

Memorial contributions may be made to Davies Medical Center, HIV Research and Treatment Institution, or the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

A memorial service will be held in San Francisco by friends. ▼

David Scott Lang

April 18, 1949-Feb. 16, 1994

David passed away from AIDS complications after a long and courageous battle of many years.

A finance graduate of the University of Maine, David later attended the Defense Language Institute in Monterey. He served with the security branch of the United States Army in Berlin, Germany. He was a language specialist, speaking Russian, German, French and Japanese.

He was later employed by several companies in their foreign operations.

In later years he directed his attention to graduate school in clinical psychology and had recently completed his hospital training. His hobbies were travel, photography and music. He was an accomplished pianist.

David is survived by his partner, Alan B. Fletcher of San Francisco; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Lang of Punta Gorda, Florida; his sister, Jan A. Lang of Minneapolis; his brother Robert and wife Deanne of New London, Wisconsin; a niece, Laurie Van Beck; a nephew, Rob Lang; a grandniece, Abbi Van Beck; and a granduncle, James W. Lang.

The family will have a private memorial service at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the Fox Valley AIDS Project, 120 North Morrison Street, Appleton, WI 54911. ▼

Jamison Thomas McGuirk

Oct. 6, 1953-Jan. 30, 1994

Born the youngest of five to parents in the diplomatic corps, Jamison started life in Ankara, Turkey, and was raised in various locations including Germany and Texas. After receiving a degree in pharmacology from the University of Maryland, life's road took him to Washington, D.C., then to Chicago, where he spent 17 years with his former lover and lifetime friend, Jim Straus.

Jamison followed his heart to San Francisco three years ago to be with his lover, Robert Gonzales. Together, they tripped the light fantastic.

Despite his illness, Jamison remained active until his hospitalization. His sudden death surprised us all. He was admitted to the California Pacific Medical Center on January 28, 1994, where he received excellent care from

a warm and attentive ICU staff. On January 30, 1994, with Robert as well as close friends at his side, Jamison peacefully joined his recently departed mother, Bertha; Robert's mother, Phoebe; and best friend, Richard Weizer, in the hereafter. He is survived by his lover, Robert Gonzales; Jim Straus; family in Texas and California; as well as a multitude of close friends in Chicago; Washington, D.C.; and San Francisco.

A celebration of Jamison's life will take place on Sunday, March 6, 1994, at the home of Robert Gonzales and Luis Amanal at 1559 15th St. between Church and Dolores.

Those of us who knew and loved Jamison will find his sense of humor irreplaceable.

My love I had but lost will stay bright in my mind and heart — I love you. ▼

Anker Thorvald Antonsen

Aug. 2, 1947-Feb. 16, 1994

Anker's strength and courage touched many throughout his lifetime.

Anker was brought into our world as Robin Clark on August 2, 1947, by his Scottish mother, Katherine DeFoy, and his Norwegian father, Harold Anker. Anker died on the morning of February 16 due to complications from AIDS.

Special thanks to the doctors, nurses and staff at Davies Medical Intensive Care Unit for their encouragement, sup-

port and special care. In addition, gratitude and thanks go to Dr. Robert Knudsen for his tender care and understanding.

Anker, a longtime survivor of AIDS, may best be remembered for his zest for life and desire for adventure.

Anker has now joined his lifetime companion, Edmund Pagni. Edmund and Anker shared over ten years of life together as business partners, traveling

companions and lovers. Edmund's parents, Rowland and Louise of Sparks, Nevada, remained an important part of Anker's life.

Friends and family are invited to attend a celebration of Anker's life in his home on Sunday, March 13, at 6:30 p.m. Contributions may be made to Theatre Rhinoceros, where Anker loved to spend time, or to PAWS in honor of Mouch. ▼

The Lesbian/Gay Caucus of St. Paul Lutheran Church invites you to join us for Worship & Communion Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

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Michael A. Schoch

Feb. 28, 1945 - Feb. 26, 1994

Michael A. Schoch died in the early morning of February 26. It was not an easy passage because while he wanted to be free of the pain and the humiliation of incapacitation, he also wanted to take care of his friends and his partner, Chuck Forester, as he has done so well for the past eighteen years. Once his friends promised to look after each other, he found peace.

Michael grew up in Downey, California, where he spent as much time at the beach as he could and still keep up his grades. With his first lover, George, Michael moved to San Francisco in 1964 and worked as a computer programmer. Next, he was behind the bar when Toad Hall opened its doors, the daytime bartender for seven years. A part of the joyful celebration that created the Castro community, he was a great beauty with a genuine smile. On first meeting this man with long curly hair, his equally curly beard and his masculine gait, many of us felt the presence of a special person. Working for the community, Michael was in the court of Empress Doris, and he produced a stage version of *The Wizard of Oz*, one of our community's earliest fundraisers — a critical and financial success. It was part of Michael's love of being alive, of bringing people together, and adding a twinkle to their lives.

He built a magical cottage deep in the redwoods and called it OZ, and that is where he met Chuck in 1976. Two years later Michael started a landscape business with a couple shovels and an innate sense of natural beauty. Within the first year he was asked to do the East Bay Showcase House and was their resident landscaper for many years, as well as doing San Francisco Showhouses and many fabulous residential gardens. An AIDS diagnosis in 1991 meant that plans to merge Michael A. Schoch Landscaping and the Stephen Marcus Landscape Company would remain a dream. Together they would have been the City's finest.

Michael and Chuck collaborated in life, with Michael providing heart, integrity, a gut sense of fairness, and a love of home. He was a true and loving man, the best partner a man could have. An outrageous romantic, Michael was a great lover.

Anyone who sat at Michael's table received a truly fabulous meal and an evening of great good company. He loved food and made it gracious and delicious, always looking sublime and as honest as his soul. Food was a gift Michael gave to others, and as in all things he did, he asked for nothing in return.

Michael's passing has rent the Universe, there's a corner missing that cannot be replaced.

A memorial service is being set, and Michael's friends may call (415) 567-6114 for information. Gifts in Michael's name should be made to the Library Foundation of San Francisco. ▼



Obituaries

Richard W. Tietze

April 5, 1956–Dec. 7, 1993

Richard died at home after living with AIDS for 2-1/2 years. His partner of six years, Richard Wallace, was with him.

Born in Germany, the only child of Wolfgang and Eva Tietze, his family immigrated to the U.S. when he

was a baby, eventually settling in Santa Clara. After high school he served in the Army (two years), where he studied accounting. Moving to San Francisco in 1976, he worked for Levi Strauss and later Thoratec Labs (through February 1993).

Richard and Richard met after R.T. had lost his partner, Bob Schiessl, to AIDS. Alone after caring for Bob, he found in Richard someone to love and share his life with.

The "Richards" traveled to Hawaii, Colorado, Florida, Nevada and throughout California. They'd planned to move to Florida before R.T. became ill. He loved Lucy, classic movies, Diana Ross and especially disco dancing.

His phenomenal courage and spirit kept the "Richards" strong during his illness.

Now he is at peace but is missed by his parents, many friends and R.W. A pine tree in Golden Gate Park was planted and dedicated to Richard. His love endures. ▼

Terry Brice Jones

Oct. 22, 1962–Jan. 22, 1994

Terry let go of his life at home in San Francisco after a two-year battle with AIDS.



Raised in a tight-knit Kansas family, Terry was particularly close to his older relatives, taking their stories and wisdom to heart. In 1982 he moved to San Francisco, to attend college and settle down.

Terry's life in San Francisco had many facets. Groups that he joined bear witness to his dually idealistic and pragmatic nature: Queer Nation, ACT UP, Castro Country Club, recovery groups, and perhaps most importantly, the Radical Faeries. In gatherings with the Faeries, Terry unleashed a deeply spiritual side of himself, yet always with charm and giggly humor.

All of us who knew and loved him will hold him in our hearts forever. A memorial gathering and ceremony to celebrate Terry's life will be held on Sunday, March 20, 1994 (Spring Equinox), at the AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park, from 12 noon to 3 p.m.

In lieu of flowers it is requested that any donations be sent to Project Open Hand in San Francisco in Terry's name. For further information please contact Maurice Kelly at 826-6607 or Yves Yarbrough at 552-0509. ▼

California

Homophobic Doolittle Faces Roseville Woman

by Marghe Covino
B.A.R. Capitol Correspondent

SACRAMENTO — Katie Hirning, Vice-President of New Generation Software, will be challenging Republican incumbent John Doolittle for the seat in the Congressional Fourth District.

Hirning, a Democrat, is seeking support from the gay and lesbian community. She told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "I'm sure you are aware that John Doolittle is a favorite son of the anti-choice and religious right communities. He openly endorses the politics of hate in his alliance with Pat Robertson and other leaders of the 'Family Values' movement of the religious right."

Hirning says she is aware of many of the issues associated with being openly gay in our society because she has a sister who is openly gay. "I'm in the process of putting together a position paper that deals with issues concerning the gay and lesbian community," she said. Hirning is realistic about attempting to defeat an incumbent like Doolittle, but says there are indicators that point to his vulnerabilities: she cites his victories over a liberal opponent in a moderate district with only 50.5 percent of the vote in 1990, and 49.6 percent of the vote in 1992.



Doolittle challenger Katie Hirning.

Hirning's business experience in the national and international market allow her to address the issues of a rapidly changing global marketplace. She is dedicated to issues of healthcare administration, fiscal responsibility, cost containment and insurance issues. She has had ten years of hands-on experience working in clinic settings of a large metropolitan hospital, assisting with insurance funding, Medicaid, and Medicare. She also worked at providing long term insurance alternatives for the elderly, and marketed business administration solutions for medical claim processing. She says her varied business experience has taught her how to work toward solutions.

Hirning believes government should behave more like the business community. Currently Hirning is the only Democrat in the race, and is looking forward to a head-to-head race with Doolittle in November. ▼

GLAAD Media Watch

Alice in Sheldon-Land

by Al Kielwasser

The right-wing (i.e., racist, sexist, homophobic) California Board of Education effectively banned a short story by Pulitzer Prize-winning African-American author Alice Walker. Walker's "Roselily" had been included in a 10th-grade English text given to the State's public school students, but was removed after the Traditional Values Coalition (TVC) complained the story was "anti-religious." The deeply-homophobic TVC objected to "Roselily" because it contains the phrase "the wrong God" and the sentence "She thinks of ropes, chains, handcuffs, his religion."

After a meeting with the TVC's Beverly Sheldon, the Department of Education's testing director, Dale Carlson, agreed to cut Walker's story and also to strike from the English test any references to "feelings." Sheldon had told Carlson that public school children shouldn't be taught about such dangerous things as "feelings."

So far, acting Superintendent of Public Instruction William Dawson has offered nothing but a "no comment" in response to this debacle. Meanwhile, Sheldon has already announced plans to follow-up on this "victory" by seeking out more "objectionable" stories to censor.

Clearly, the Board of Education intends to deprive children of cultural diversity and literary excellence rather than offend the TVC, an organization that has done nothing but promote hatred and ignorance in California. Coincidentally — or not — the board's president is an avowed creationist who has "problems" with teaching evolutionary theory.

TVC hatemongers must not be allowed to dictate the State's educational policy! Demand that the Board of Education schedule a special hearing on the censorship of Walker's story — a meeting to which members of the general public are invited, not just the professional hatemongers. Also, insist that Superintendent Dawson do his duty and take a stand against this attack on public instruction.

Call and write Joseph Stein, President, & All Members, California Board of Education (tel. 916-657-5478, fax 916-657-5101) and William D. Dawson, Superintendent of Public Instruction (tel. 916-657-3043), P.O. Box 944272, Sacramento CA 94244-2720.

Banned in Key West

Television station WEYS in Key West, Florida, has banned *Network Q* (a national lesbian/gay video-magazine program) and *The Open Closet* (a locally-produced talk show). The programs were pulled from the station's line-up after Trinity Broadcasting Network (a fundamentalist Christian media operation) threatened to cancel its contract with WEYS and its seven affiliates unless station owner David Druker refused to air lesbian/gay programming. When WEYS station manager David Solomon objected to this gross censorship, Druker fired him.

WEYS had been the first commercial TV station in the

nation to include the lesbian/gay audience in its programming schedule, which also features Spanish-language and religious programs. In Key West, an estimated 60 percent of the WEYS viewing audience is lesbian, gay, and bisexual. In banning queer television programs, WEYS is hardly living up to the requirements of its FCC license, which requires the broadcaster to serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

Calls, faxes, and letters should be directed to David Druker, WEYS Channel 22, 527 Southland St., Key West, FL 33040, tel. 305-296-4969, fax 305-296-1669. Copy correspondence to the Federal Communications Commission, Attn. Complaints and Investigations, Room 8219, 1919 "M" Street, NW, Washington DC 20544.

Shame on Two

Most of the mainstream media provided fairly good coverage of the "Reverend" Fred Phelps and his hasty and hateful demonstration at Randy Shilts' funeral. However, television station KTVU (Channel 2) offered up a rather poor performance. On the day of Shilts' funeral (February 22), the station's *Mornings On 2* newscast invited Fred Phelps, Jr. in for a chat. Phelps was interviewed by host Ross McCowan, whose questions were well-intentioned but hardly informed, experienced, or incisive. *Mornings On 2* later featured commentary from the ever-eloquent Cecil Williams, but no lesbian, gay, or bisexual persons were interviewed.

Of course, television stations should report on the activities of Phelps and other homophobes; in this way, they make visible the face of hatred that many Americans would otherwise ignore. However, Channel 2 provided virtually uncontested air time for homophobia, while completely failing to include the voices of lesbians and gay men who suffer first-hand from that hatred.

Complaints can be sent to Fred Zehnder, News Director, and Rosemarie Thomas, Producer, *Mornings On 2*, KTVU Channel 2, P.O. Box 22222, Oakland, CA 94623, tel. 510-834-1212, fax 510-451-2610.

Media briefs

• A progressive and pro-lesbian/gay/bisexual sex education pamphlet, *Just Say Yes!*, is available from the Coalition for Positive Sexuality, 3712 N. Broadway, Box 191, Chicago, IL 60613, tel. 312-604-1654. Coalition members visit high schools and distribute condoms along with the booklet, which is available in English and Spanish.

• Announced as "a monumental step for the gay media," Our World Television: The Global Gay & Lesbian Cable Network has entered the world cable market. The network, which offers several programs and currently reaches 320,000 homes, is planning to expand to a 24 hours a day operation. For more information, contact Our World Television, 3976 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92103, tel/fax 619-688-0643. And don't forget to ask your local cable system to pick up this and other lesbian/gay program services! ▼

We must confront homophobia in order to cure it! To notify the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation of any defamatory media coverage, or to request GLAAD membership information, write to GLAAD/SFBA, 514 Castro Street, Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94114. Call our main office at 415-861-4588; fax, 415-861-4893; South Bay, 408-235-0229; East Bay, 510-273-9146; North Bay, 415-647-3055. ▼



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Simple Phrases and Local Politics

by Michael C. Botkin

Political slogans are shorter than ever: "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," "Three Strikes, You're Out." The ideal seems to be a two-part monosyllabic phrase, perhaps reflecting a breathtakingly brief political attention span on the part of the electorate. If only the implementation of the policies promoted by these concise catchphrases were half so simple!

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (coined by Senator Sam Nunn) sounded so basic, so neutral, that it completely won over the military minds and the congressional moderates. But when the Pentagon honchos sat down to codify it in legalese, they found it devilishly difficult to pin down. Was marching in a gay pride parade to be counted as "telling"? Supposedly not. However, unsolicited reports by fellow soldiers isn't "asking," so gays can still be "exposed."

Working out the kinks (so to speak) has proven so complicated that they haven't actually implemented the new policy yet, although the Clinton administration has cleared the way for them to do so by successfully appealing a number of court challenges to the ban on gays in the military.

"Three Strikes, You're Out" was so popular that every elected official from dog catcher up jumped on their local bandwagon to "get tough" on crime. The state Legislature passed no less than five competing "Three Strike" bills, and petitioners are working on a ballot proposition as well. When the cheering died down and the bean counters began tallying the projections, it was discovered that these policies would require at least doubling prison capacity. It would be roughly the equivalent of turning all of Anaheim into a prison (which, if you've driven through it, might not strike you as such a bad idea).

While national and regional politics appear to have tilted toward the terse and streamlined, local politics as always remain long-winded. The hot air is already being warmed up for San Francisco's next general election, when half of the Board of Supervisors and the mayor's office will be up for grabs. These races have yet to take on their final shapes, but promise to be complex and interesting.

The twinkie offense

The gay community has an opportunity to reaffirm its clout, perhaps regaining a third seat on the Board of Supes. This could easily be the case if Supervisors Migden and Leal both retain their seats and are joined by Tom Ammann, currently a popular member of the SF School Board. Carole Migden has a good chance to be the top vote-getter in the supervisors' race and thus win its presidency. In fact her polling figures are so good that she's considered to have a decent shot at the mayoral slot. But is even San Francisco ready for a lesbian mayor? Most

people figure otherwise.

For one thing, Migden might lose some of her gay support to Angela Alioto, a confirmed mayoral hopeful who is surprisingly popular in some sections of the gay community. I've never understood this phenomenon, but suspect it may be related to Alioto's superficial resemblance to Judy Garland. Migden recently had to back down and apologize for calling a gay Alioto aide a "twinkie" — unfortunately the accuracy of the slur did not diminish its Political Incorrectness — and would probably just as soon avoid going head-to-head with Angela if she could avoid it. On the other hand, if Migden does win Board president, she'll have ample opportunity to make life hell for whoever is mayor.

The main surprise of the mayoral race is that the incumbent Frank Jordan is in such good shape. At this point you have to figure him to have at least a 50-50 shot of keeping his office. Ex-Mayor Agnos is said to be contemplating a rematch, but this would likely split the liberals between him and Alioto and leave Jordan with enough of an edge to squeak by. It's true Jordan makes a major blunder every month, but the new ones crowd out the old ones so fast that they're swiftly forgotten. He's almost always willing to abandon a program that turns out to be wildly unpopular or to offer up a scapegoat for the wrath of the mob if necessary (including, once, his own brother). Somehow, he always manages to dodge the bullet.

Commentary

Even I have to admit that he's not nearly as bad a mayor as I was expecting, mostly because he stumbles so often. He tried to pit the black and gay communities against each other over the appointment of the health commissioner, only to have his candidate rejected by a 6-1 vote. Back in my native Chicago, politicians were always in the habit of tallying their votes before they were counted, so Jordan's lapse in this matter struck me as quaintly naive. A few weeks later Jordan was crossed by his library commission and canned six out of seven of them on the spot, although most of them are top local political contributors — why do you think they got those appointments in the first place?

With gaffes like the above, you can't count him as a shoo-in, but he is surprisingly tenacious. He did save the Giants, and that plays well on the west side of town.

Fight fear: vote queer

I certainly won't vote for him. He's cut health care, and the police department has definitely gotten more piggy and violent under his administration. I wouldn't mind a lesbian mayor, but would as soon have Migden as Board president. Ammann's election seems a nearly sure thing; he has broad voter appeal, some legislative experience, and a sense of humor.

Supervisor Susan Leal, although an incumbent, is probably the longest shot of the



gay and lesbian candidates. Appointed by Mayor Jordan,

she has no real constituency, although by virtue of affirmative action tokenism, she's considered to "represent" both the gay and Latino communities.

Jordan's other appointee, Annemarie "the Goddaughter" Conroy, is also vulnerable. As she's become the leading homophobe on the Board of Supes, her defeat would come as something of a relief.

Ex-supervisor, ex-mayoral candidate and ex-police chief Richard Hongisto does not appear to be running for office this time around. He currently runs a "private security" agency, one of the few professions that give you the right to maintain an armed goon squad, and they thoughtfully provide him with a Rolls

Royce in which to conduct his official business.

Despite this apparent opulence, it's likely that Hongisto is simply too broke to run for office. He's currently suing his home insurance company for refusing to pay his recent legal bills. When Hongisto was canned for stealing a few thousand copies of a local gay newspaper, the city declined to pay Hongisto's lawyers for defending him against the resulting civil suit — a \$60,000 tab. After all, the papers in question were found in Hongisto's basement, and thus were clearly private, not city, business.

Accepting this logic and expanding on it some, Hongisto decided that his home-owner's policy should cover the costs. After all, if he didn't have a home to store

those papers, he wouldn't have gotten into that mess, would he? When his insurer refused — we assume after a few moments of stunned silence — Hongisto took them to court. So he needs his money to hire lawyers to sue his insurer to make them pay his previous lawyers and doesn't have any left to fund a run for office.

Thank goddess for small favors!

Overall, the odds are good for an impressive display of gay clout at the ballot boxes in the next city election. Such local victories are all the more important given the generally reactionary trend in the country at large; San Francisco can remain an island of sanity in a sea of rampant conservatism. To put it in contemporary politicalese: "Fight Fear: Vote Queer." ▼

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Joseph, age 39, HIV positive gay man

"It's great to have a place that provides support for HIV negative men, too. Allowing me to talk confidentially about how HIV affects my life makes a big difference."
Carlos, age 23, HIV negative gay man

"I'm not ready to take the HIV test, but I still need to talk about staying safe and living through the epidemic."
Gordon, age 45, bisexual man

Nothing Exceeds Like Success With China's Concubine Film

United Press International

BEIJING — Beijing's official press lashed out on Friday, February 11, at the Oscar-nominated Chinese film *Farewell My Concubine* for its sympathetic depiction of homosexuality, which the article called "social trash."

Farewell, directed by Chen Kaige, has already won the Golden Globe award for best foreign language film and shared top honors at the Cannes Film Festival in 1993. It has been nominated for an Academy Award as best foreign language film.

But the state-run *Beijing Evening News* said "it is widely known that even in the West homosexuality is social trash just like drug addiction, prostitution, and gambling," and condemned the movie.

The article, reprinted from a Communist Party magazine, added that "most people hate that kind of dirty behavior even in capitalist society."

The film chronicles 50 years of the sensual relationship between two male Peking Opera actors, one of whom marries a prostitute. It also depicts the brutality of all four regimes that ruled Beijing during that period, most recently the Communist Party.

The government delayed

the film's release after a private screening for 700 members of China's cabinet met with universal disapproval. But banning such a popular movie would have embarrassed the government, and an edited version was later shown in theaters.

Although the government has distanced itself from *Farewell*, the most critically acclaimed Chinese film ever, and has restricted Chinese directors' access to foreign funds, it still laments the sorry state of Chinese filmmaking.

A ten percent decline in box office receipts forced more than 6,000 cinemas out of business, as more people elected to stay home and watch videos, official media reported.

Official commentaries have called for more high-quality films that will be enjoyed by the "broad masses of the people," but that hasn't dampened their disdain for *Farewell*.

"In our country, homosexuality has been swept away since liberation in 1949," the *Beijing Evening News* proclaimed.

"Can we still sell this spiritual pollution to viewers today when we are trying to construct a socialist spiritual civilization?" ▼

Britain Lowers Age of Consent For Gays ... But Not For Teens

by Michael Collins

LONDON (UPI) — The British Parliament voted February 21 to reduce the age at which gay males may legally have sex, from 21 to 18, but its failure to equalize the homosexual age of consent with that of heterosexuals, at 16, outraged gay activists.

Hundreds of protesters holding a candlelight vigil outside Parliament, some of them dressed in drag, erupted in anger after the compromise vote that maintains criminal sanctions against homosexual acts by males between 16-18, when heterosexual and lesbian acts are legal.

"Eighteen is not a compromise, it is discrimination," said Peter Tatchell, a spokesman for the gay rights group Outrage. He added that homosexual activists would step up their protests against

the age of consent.

"I think the majority of MPs are gutless cowards," said another gay activist involved in the protest. "They haven't got the guts to stand up for basic human rights."

In a free vote that was not dictated by party allegiance, members of the House of Commons voted 427-162 late Monday to amend the Criminal Justice Bill to reduce the age of consent for male homosexual acts from 21 to 18.

An earlier vote on a proposal by Conservative MP Edwina Currie to reduce the age of consent to 16 failed by a 307-280 tally.

Prime Minister John Major, Home Secretary Michael Howard and other members of the government supported the compromise to set the age of consent at 18.

"On the one hand we should not criminalize private actions freely entered into by

consenting mature adults," Howard told Parliament. "On the other we need to protect vulnerable young men from activities which their lack of maturity might cause them to regret."

Currie argued in proposing her motion that there was no logic to allowing girls and boys to decide to have heterosexual sex or marry at age 16 while maintaining boys could not make a mature decision on homosexual sex.

"We hold young people capable of judging between right and wrong from the age of ten, we hold young boys capable of rape from the age of 12, and we regard them as capable of getting married at the age of 16," Currie said. "To say that they are not capable of anything else at that age is just a load of nonsense. It's just discrimination and it's out of date." ▼

Baxter Withdraws Drug Under Probe

DEERFIELD, Ill. (UPI) — Baxter Healthcare announced Friday it will withdraw its immune deficiency drug from the market because of concerns it may be linked to incidents of hepatitis C.

The company and the Food and Drug Administration are trying to determine if the drug caused the infection.

The drug, Gammagard, is designed to treat a range of acquired immune deficiencies, but has not been approved for

use by patients with the human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV.

Financial experts say Baxter sold about \$75 million worth of the drug last year. It has been sold in the United States since 1968 and in Europe since 1983. But problems started cropping up this year.

"We had a cluster of cases that were reported in late January and early February," said William Mutert, vice president of Baxter's Hyland Division, which makes Gam-

magard.

Three patients in Spain and two in Sweden developed the hepatitis C virus infection after taking the drug.

The company told the FDA earlier this week it would withdraw the drug, though the FDA says the drug generally has a good safety record.

The FDA will oversee Baxter's investigation into the drug's effects. ▼

Screening Study to Identify Qualified HIV+ Participants for a Gene Therapy Trial

ViRx, Inc., a private clinical research center, is recruiting HIV-positive individuals with T-cell counts above 400 for a screening study to identify candidates for a future gene therapy trial. To be eligible, participants must not have received any prior HIV vaccine therapy. Anti-retroviral therapies are allowed.

This screening study will involve up to 4 blood tests over a period of 10 weeks. Labs and clinical evaluations are provided at no cost. Those individuals who fit the laboratory requirements for the therapy study will receive 4 monthly gene therapy treatments and long-term follow-up. It is anticipated that approximately 250 people will be screened to find 40 participants eligible for the gene therapy study.

If you are interested in this study or other clinical trials for HIV infection, please call ViRx at 474-2233. Women and minorities are encouraged to participate.

ViRx

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Suite 407
San Francisco, CA
94109

Health & Community

Acceptance Place Residential substance abuse treatment program for gay men and men with HIV. Fundraiser and talent show March 11. 546-9946.

Aguilas Gay Latino Organization's general body meeting, March 5, 6-9pm. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church. 647-3104.

AIDS Dance-a-thon March 12, 7pm-midnight. Moscone Center (Howard at 3rd). To register, call 392-9255.

Alliance of Lesbian Gay Bisexual Latina/o Artists 4th annual visual arts show seeks submissions. Write ALGaBiLA, PO Box 41770, SF, CA 94140.

Alternative Family Project Low-fee family counseling services for children, youth and families with lesbians, gay &/or bisexual members. Queer parents support group, too. 550-2621.

Auditions 10th Annual Gay Evening in May, a benefit for Santa Cruz AIDS, gay and women's groups, will hold open auditions for its talent show. March 5 & 6, Loudon Nelson Center, 301 Center St. Santa Cruz. 457-0712.

Bay Area Young Positives Support groups, retreats, fun night, referrals and peer counseling for HIV-positive people under 27. 518 Waller. 487-1616.

Bi & Gay Men Married to Women Support/rap group, March 6, 10am-noon. \$10. Center for Human Relations, 5276 College Ave., Oakland. (510) 654-6442.

Drama Divas Writing and performing workshop for queer and questioning young people 18 and under. Meets Saturdays at Brava Studio, 2180 Bryant. 641-7684.

The Femme Mystique Lesbian anthology exploring aspects of femme identity. Submit stories, poems, photos to Leslea Newman, Femme Mystique, PO. Box 815, Northampton, MA 01061.

Freedom in Christ Evangelical Church Weekly gay-run worship services. Sundays, 1pm. 50 Belcher.

Gay/Lesbian Autobiography Writer's group forming. 334-3845.

Gay/Lesbian United Europe Party for European citizens and friends March 12. 775-6143.

G40plus Club Ken Miller shows the frightening fundie flick, *Gay Rights, Special Rights*. Bring canned foods for the AIDS Food Bank. March 6. 2pm. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin. 552-1997.

Hearing Loss and Communication Workshop for people with HIV/AIDS. March 12, 26 & April 9. 693-5870.

HIV and Disabilities Conference \$10. March 4, 8am - 4:30pm. San Jose State University, Student Union. (408) 924-6202.

HIV & TM Positive gay and bisexual men who want to learn Transcendental Meditation free, call (510) 548-8283.

HIV Case Management Network Information, referral, benefits counseling, financial assistance and other services provided free for Sonoma County residents with HIV/AIDS. (707) 544-1586.

HIV Positive and Losing Eyesight? National Association for Visually Handicapped can help. 221-3201.

HIV Support Workshops New groups forming, led by Neil Kaminsky at Operation Concern. Mar. 9 Emotional numbness and the social scene. Free. 677-7993.

Lambda Youth Group Support group for les/bi/gay & questioning youth up to age 23. Confidential. Weekly meetings, Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm. (510) 887-0566.

Lavender Broadcasters Convention Proposals and ideas for possible conference on queer media (perhaps May 27-30) in SF being accepted now. 1(800) L-LOUNGE.

Lesbian & Gay Business Expo Business owners are invited to exhibit at Silicon Valley Business Association expo, to be held March 12 at the Billy DeFrank L & G Community Center in San Jose. (408) 496-8804.

Lesbian Gay History Courses Early 19th & 20th century emancipation studies March 9, 16, 23. 7-9pm. First Unitarian Church. 776-4580.

McClintock AIDS Cure Act Working Group Direct action working group to get the bill passed that will establish a Manhattan Project-style research initiative. Meets weekly. 487-9954.

Multimedia for Nonprofits Bay Area Video Coalition, National Task Force on AIDS Prevention present a panel on high tech, including *Brothers*, the interactive safer sex video for African American men. March 10, 2-5pm. George Coates Performance Works, 110 McAllister. 861-3282.

Oral History Project Gay and Lesbian Historical Society collects life histories, and needs interviewers. Orientation March 19, 11am. 626-0980.

Out on Screen First International Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Film & Video Festival of the Young and Old seeks submissions from queers under 23, over 60, people of color and other minorities. Deadline: May 31. 824-3890.

P-FLAG Volunteer for Bridges to Equality, the Parents & Friends of Lesbian & Gays International Convention, to be held Sept. 2-5 at the Hyatt Regency. Your help is needed now. 921-6902.

The Parsonage Ministry of the Episcopal Church for gay and lesbian people will hold a seminar, "Mutuality or Abuse: Sexual Relations with Clergy," March 10, 6pm. 552-2909.

Sexual Discrimination at the Top Lecture by Frances Conley professor at Stanford. March 7, 11am-noon. Also, Sexual Harassment in the Educational Arena, a lecture by Miriam Komaromy, MD. Noon-1pm. Diego Rivera Theatre, City College, 50 Phelan Ave. 239-3580.

Spectrum Lesbian, gay & bisexual support groups for parents, kids, spirituality, HIV wellness and other topics. 457-1115.

National News

Illinois Pols: Spend Money on HIV Tests, Not for Prevention

United Press International

CHICAGO — A proposed ordinance that would require annual HIV tests for thousands of Chicago workers is under attack from union and civic leaders who call it homophobic and unconstitutional.

The ordinance proposed by Southwest Side Alderman James Laski Thursday, February 3, would require testing for restaurant waiters and cooks, swimming pool attendants, health club employees, and all city safety workers.

"It's a homophobic response to a public health issue," said Brian David, board chairman of IMPACT, a statewide gay and lesbian political action committee. "It only serves to imply that casual contact is a mode of transmission, and that is scientifically incorrect."

Earlier in the week, Laski outlined his proposal as requiring that all members of the Police and Fire Departments undergo annual HIV testing, regardless of their assignments or actual contact with the public. All city Health Department employees who come into contact with the public would also be required to undergo testing.

But in the ordinance unveiled Thursday, the proposal went on to include testing of any employee of a swimming pool, natatorium, or health

club, plus any restaurant or food service employee who comes into contact with food.

Laski said he believes that HIV is spread more easily than most health agencies believe.

"There are things the government hasn't told us," said Laski.

The 23rd Ward alderman, who is expected to face stiff competition in his re-election bid next year, said his proposal is a response to the con-

An Illinois spokesperson said there's no problem of AIDS in prisons.

cerns of his Southwest Side constituents.

Laski has not said how the extremely expensive proposal would be funded. An indication of the low funding for HIV services in Illinois can be seen in that a state corrections spokesperson, Nic Howell, said that providing condoms to prisoners is out of the question, because taxpayers would never be agreeable to footing the bill for prisoners.

Howell's comments came in response to a Monday, February 7 protest by ACT

UP, demanding correction of officials acknowledge "the responsibility of protecting the health of prisoners in their custody," according to ACT UP member Debbie Gould.

About 20 members staged the protest outside the Thompson Center state government building. Illinois Department of Correction officials "have their heads in the sand and have a do-nothing approach to AIDS in prisons," said Gould.

ACT UP demanded that state prisons provide inmates with condoms, latex gloves, opportunities to learn about AIDS prevention, and other protective measures.

"The reality is prisoners are having sex, shooting drugs, and sharing needles," Gould said. "All that puts them at risk for AIDS."

Howell said there really isn't a problem of AIDS in prisons. The present four percent of the Illinois prisoners who have HIV all contracted it before they went to prison, Howell said.

"No one has been able to document that they have contracted AIDS in prison," he said.

Howell disputed the group's claim that corrections department does not care about the threat of AIDS, saying that all inmates participate in mandatory AIDS discussions, whether in a group setting or individually. ▽

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Wayne Friday

Friday (Continued from page 10)
or hide their sexuality to keep their jobs. Tim McFeeley of the HRCF said the pledges were important because gay people are not protected from discrimination by federal law and in 42 states.

Gay and lesbian activists in New York are already at odds with their new Republican mayor. The Rev. Ruben Diaz, an outspoken member of the city's powerful Police Civilian Complaint Review Board, recently attacked the city's upcoming Gay Games in June by warning that the event could lead to the spread of AIDS and make NYC children conclude that there is nothing wrong with homosexuality. Gay activists and their straight supporters demanded that Mayor Rudolph Giuliani remove the homophobic min-

ister. The mayor, however, expressed mild disagreement with Diaz and said the minister's comments were "based on a moral theology," adding that "it's not my job to condemn people." Even the *New York Times* criticized the mayor by pointing out that "he seems to have a double standard when it comes to criticizing an attack on the city's gay and lesbian community" when he [the mayor] readily condemned a recent anti-Semitic and racist statement by a former aide to Minister Louis Farrakhan.

In Oakland, Yusuf Bey, the president of Your Black Muslim Bakery Inc., entered the race for mayor by declaring that gays should not be allowed to teach in the schools. Bey: "I don't want my child looking up to this teacher as a

great history teacher, but he's a faggot, so I have to be a faggot."

An overflow crowd at Carole Migden's re-election kickoff last night at Yerba Buena Gardens as she begins her campaign to not only get re-elected but also very possibly end up as the next president of the Board.

An act of real courage by the state Republican Party: at Sunday's closing convention session in Burlingame, they passed, among other things, a resolution "opposing preferential treatment for people with AIDS." And one of the true highlights of the three-day GOP confab had to be when right-wing Attorney General Dan Lungren gave a rousing speech extolling the virtues of — you guessed it — Dan Quayle. ▼

National News

Vaccine Issues Raised by Researchers

by Lidia Wasowicz
UPI Science Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — A team of international researchers urges critical ethical, social, and behavioral issues be addressed before any human testing of AIDS vaccines begins in developing countries.

In their report published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the scientists warned that failure to take this step will jeopardize the vaccine research and future AIDS studies in those regions.

Twelve researchers from Africa, Asia, and South and North America are proposing guidelines. One key recommendation is that only vaccines shown to be active against virus strains found in a region should be tested there.

Lead author Dr. Peter Lurie of the University of California, San Francisco, says the group has tried to lay the groundwork so that trials will not only be effective from a research standpoint, but also acceptable to the host countries and protective of the human subjects.

Some 15 vaccines are already being evaluated for toxicity and optimal dosage in small groups of volunteers. But none of these was developed using HIV strains dominant in the developing world, according to the World Health Organization. ▼

Classifieds

LEGAL NOTICES

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 386533

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, in the matter of the application of JENNIFER R. AVILA for change of name. The application of JENNIFER R. AVILA for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that JENNIFER R. AVILA has filed an application proposing that Applicant's name be changed to JAMES R. AVILA. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Division 2-H, Department 3, on the 30th day of March 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 16th day of February, 1994.

February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 1994.
L-386533

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 183183

The following person is doing business as MR. S.F. FURRY MAN CONTEST, 544 Church St. #302, San Francisco, CA 94114; PHILIP M. TURNER, 544 Church St. #302, San Francisco, CA 94114; Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date February 4, 1994. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed PHILIP M. TURNER.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 4, 1994.

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 1993. L-183183

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 183396

The following person is doing business as SF BARE CHEST CONTEST & CALENDAR; MR. SF EAGLE LEATHER CONTEST, 276 Castro St. #2, San Francisco, CA 94114; TERRY A. THOMPSON, 276 Castro St. #2, San Francisco, CA 94114; Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date February 11, 1994. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed TERRY A. THOMPSON.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 11, 1994.

February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 1993.
L-183396

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 958338

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of DAWN FELIZ MACKARNES for change of name. The application of DAWN FELIZ MACKARNES for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that DAWN FELIZ MACKARNES has filed an application proposing that HER name be changed to MIRIAM FELIZ MACKARNES. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 23rd day of March 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 4th day of February, 1994.

February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 1994.
L-958338

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 183779

The following person is doing business as AUMAKUA, 2238 Fillmore St., San Francisco, CA; PATRICK J. SHORTLE, 984 Ashbury St., San Francisco, CA 94117; Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed PATRICK J. SHORTLE.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 25, 1994.

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 1993. L-183779

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 958401

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of MICHELE TRACY LACAGNIN for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that MICHELE TRACY LACAGNIN has filed an application proposing that HER name be changed to MICHELE TERESA LACAGNINA. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 28th day of March 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 7th day of February, 1994.

February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 1994.
L-958401

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 957549

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ANTONIO DURAND JACOBS for change of name. The application of ANTONIO DURAND JACOBS for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ANTONIO DURAND JACOBS has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to ANTONIO DURAND KENDRICK. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 11th day of April 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 14th day of February, 1994.

February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 1994.
L-957549

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 183034

The following person is doing business as M. IN. 3283 21st St., San Francisco, CA 94110; THOM O'MALLEY, 147 San Carlos St., San Francisco, CA 94110; Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed THOM O'MALLEY.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 31, 1994.

February 10, 17, 24, March 3, 1994.
L-183034

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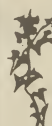
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Portrait of the Author As a Young Lesbian Captive

by Doug Seto

Lyn Duff, who was shanghaied to Utah by her family, is more than a writer; she is also editor of 24-7: *Notes From the Inside*, a publication written by and for adolescents who have survived institutionalizations — as she has — because of their sexuality.

She is fairly young to be an editor, but at 17 she is what's often called mature beyond her years; grounded; strong. Actually, that isn't surprising: having lived through a gruesome institutionalization in Utah's Mormon-run Rivendell Hospital after her mother discovered she was a lesbian, she's been forced to be strong.

Duff says 24-7 is her way of reaching out to young victims of mind-control procedures, and letting them know they are not alone. And after reading about her own tribulations, it's clear that anything — no matter how appalling — can be survived. She has been profiled once before in the *B.A.R.*, but her story is so compelling it bears repeating, particularly for those who have not heard it.

The beginning

Duff's ordeal began shortly after her mother learned about her lesbianism. It started with an offer from her grandmother, whom she trusted: "Come outside Lyn, we have a surprise for you inside the car."

Duff hurried to the car and poked her head inside, only to find her "surprise" was a woman sitting in the back seat. It wasn't a good surprise.

"Mom!" she cried fearfully, "what's going on?"

Suddenly, someone pulled a sweatshirt over her face and locked her hands behind her back. She heard hushed voices as the sweatshirt began choking her. When it was finally removed, Duff's grandmother had disappeared, leaving her alone with her mother and grandfather in the moving car.

It wasn't until several hours later that her mother bothered to explain what was happening to Duff — and then only then to say, "We're just going to look at some schools, dear."

Except for an incident during a stop for gas, where Duff tried to call a friend — which her mother cut short — the drive to Utah was uneventful.

Mrs. Duff had read about Rivendell, which calls itself a hospital, in a *Sunset* magazine advertisement, and had Lyn committed there because she disapproved of her daughter's public coming out.

Rivendell charges a fee of \$6,447 per week to accept kids like Lyn Duff, every penny of which in her case was paid by California taxpayers, via the South Pasadena Unified School District; somehow she was made eligible for "financial aid" as part of her "right" to an education in America: what she got was a kind of education no kid at South Pasadena learns — or should have to.

For six months, Duff lived in Rivendell, where she had to cooperate with unfair rules,



Former prisoner Lyn Duff gives a thumbs-down to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. (Photo: Jane Philomen (Cleveland))

bizarre rituals, and head games. The staff deprived her of eyeglasses and an asthma inhaler, injected her with drugs, and deprived her of sleep. Other incidents that happened cannot be reported, since her lawsuit against Rivendell is still in litigation.

The first day

Duff spent the first four hours of her stay locked up in a room with only a table and a chair for company. Later, a big man took her into a seclusion room with walls painted intestine pink. After several hours, Duff found herself staring into a corner without knowing why, until she detected a small pink triangle scratched into the paint in the corner. Focusing on that small symbol of gay and lesbian pride gave her strength.

Eventually she was re-

the room. They gave Duff an injection of Mellaril and escorted her into a room where they performed a humiliating body cavity search for hidden drugs, weapons, or tobacco.

After the strip search, a girl with unusually pale blonde hair walked into the room, looking as though she was on a lot of drugs, and as though she hadn't been outside in the sunshine for some time.

"This is what you need to know," she told Duff, "always smile, answer all the time with either yes or no, and agree with everything they tell you."

Suddenly, an adult's head popped in and out, and the girl hushed and walked away like a zombie.

The first supper

The first meal Duff ate at Rivendell consisted of two pieces of bread, a piece of cheese, and a carton of milk. She also received packet of papers that listed 117 things she had to remember.

Duff soon learned that as the newest Rivendell resident, she had the lowest seniority: It wasn't just the staff that issued orders, but other kids with higher ranks who could boss her around, too — and cause trouble.

"That's the way the place operated," Duff told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "The more you got lower-level kids in trouble, the higher up you got."

When Duff's glasses were broken by a staff member, he took her glasses away. The reason: "Broken glasses can be used as weapons."

For the next few months, Duff could hardly see.

The staff also took away her asthma respirator, saying the ailment was only psychosomatic and a plea for attention.

Two weeks later, her clothes started to smell because washing clothes is a privilege that Rivendell reserved for patients who ranked higher than Duff at the time. Like many of the the policies at Rivendell, it was unwritten, but tacitly enforced: since kids with higher rank always got priority, the end result was the same —

lower-ranking kinds ended up with dirty clothes.

One morning an adult escorted her into an unusually large room for "hold therapy," also called "anger reduction therapy." The room had a single light that lit the mattress like a spotlight. Suddenly, voices started shouting at her.

"You're never going to be something in life," a voice yelled.

Rivendell gets \$6,447 a week to accept kids like Lyn Duff, all of which in her case was paid by California taxpayers.

"We're your only friends and all others aren't," another screamed.

"You're gay because you masturbate," hollered another.

The yelling lasted several hours.

A few days later, Duff was promoted to the next level, a "senior person," in Rivendell-speak. It wasn't much of an improvement: second level inmates still got fed with two pieces of bread, a carton of milk, and a slice of cheese. She was also still forbidden to speak with the boys or most of the girls, but she did manage to make a few friends.

One of her new friends, noticing how Duff would often stand next besides the air vent in her room and pretend she was feeling the a cool ocean breeze, brought a blade of grass inside from the courtyard for Duff to hide under her pillow. At night she took it out and smelled it, felt it, and even whistled on it.

The third level

Three weeks later, Rivendell staff promoted Duff to the third level. She was now exposed to a whole new world, including meals in the cafeteria — which meant no more bread, milk, and cheese.

Of the third level kids, Duff was the only overt lesbian, but the majority of the boys were gay. They would occasionally joke about how they managed to have gay sex in the showers.

Such talk could have been dangerous, since Duff was supposed to report anyone she knew was breaking the rules (purposely or accidentally). And Rivendell was serious about getting the kids to tattle: she had to fulfill a quota of 30 infraction reports each day.

When Duff got to the fourth level, she was able to get that jaw surgery, and was told that her mother was going to pick her up for the operation back in Los Angeles.

It was June when her mother picked her up. When they arrived in Pasadena, Duff got permission from her mother to shop at a local drugstore.

Then she ran off. She says she never looked back.

The next day, Duff felt odd

and began showing signs of withdrawal from the drugs she had been injected with: missing her routine injections now made her feel a bit dizzy. Duff called a classmate from Cal State College and got permission to hide with her. It was the evening of the classmate's graduation, and when friends came over for a party they saw Duff curling into a ball, sweating and freezing at the same time, throwing up all the food they fed her. Maybe, she thought, she would die.

A week later, she made her way back to San Francisco and was referred to the Larkin Street Youth Center. There she learned about the Diamond Youth Center, a place for runaways, and Hospitality House, a Tenderloin Community Services Center with a runaway program.

Duff stayed at Hospitality House, and her mother was even informed about it, with Duff's consent. Everything seemed to be going well for her: she was going to college and was away from Rivendell — until...

Captured

Early one morning Duff stopped into a fast food place for coffee. The morning seemed peaceful enough, until she saw her mother, a private eye, and two policemen coming her way.

Duff tried to tell her mother that she did not want to go back to Rivendell, to no avail.

The private eye pulled out a pair of handcuffs. "You're coming with me," she said.

Duff was taken back to Salt Lake City by her mother and the private eye, but at the airport Duff managed to sneak a call to Larkin Street Youth Center, which contacted a friend who called the press — all within ten minutes of when her plane landed in Utah.

When she got back to Rivendell, Duff learned the *San Francisco Chronicle* and *Examiner* and the *L.A. Times* had all called, demanded to know what was going to happen to her.

After Kim DeLaMare, director of the residential treatment center at Rivendell, took out a tape recorder, and Duff said into it, "I don't want to be here. Let me go, please," the Rivendell staff called the Department of Mental Health to ask if they could accept her, despite Duff's obvious lack of cooperation. DMH officials said that without her consent, Duff could not be kept there.

Her mother protested, insisting to the Rivendell staff, "You have to take her — she's out of control." But they didn't.

From that day, Duff was free from Rivendell, but hardly living her life as she liked.

When she went back to living at home, her mother assaulted her — "beat the shit out of me," is how Duff put it — causing her to run away again. When she contacted the police, they told her they already knew about her case: that they knew she was a lesbian "with mental problems." One, Duff said, told her "if it happened, you deserved it."

Eventually she was released from her mother's care; she now lives with a lesbian couple that has legally adopted her. It's a surprisingly happy ending to her story, but even so, Duff sounds like any other impatient teen: "They may be lesbians," she told the *B.A.R.*, "but they're still parents!" ▼

BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT PEOPLE AND PERSONALS

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Kate Bornstein's 'Virtually Yours' Inquisitive Spirit

by Wendell Ricketts

A critic for the *New York Times* thinks she ought to have her own television show. After seeing *The Nun's Story* for the first time, she identified so completely with Audrey Hepburn that she decided to convert to Catholicism (it didn't stick). She's about to publish a book called *Gender Outlaw*. And one of her ambitions, when she gets to be an old, gray-haired woman, is to play *King Lear*.

For anyone who's been paying attention to the Bay Area theatre scene in recent years, those are pretty good clues. In the category "Transsexual Lesbian Playwrights," Alex, the correct question is, "Who is Kate Bornstein?"

Who, indeed.

After a roaring success as *The Judge* in Theatre Rhinoceros's 1990 production of *The Balcony*, a role Jean Genet wrote for a male actor



Kate Bornstein.

her widely acclaimed full-length play *Hidden: A Gender*, and a solo show, *The Opposite Sex Is... Neither!*, Kate Bornstein will premiere *Virtually Yours*, *Beta 1.0*, her newest offering at Josie's on March 3rd.

Using a device she employed to excellent effect in *The Opposite Sex Is... Neither!*, Bornstein has peopled *Virtually Yours* with a series of characters whose lives Bornstein "inhabits," for a time, as her virtual-reality computer game pops them up one by one.

They include Valerie Solanis, whose fame as the author of the SCUM (Society for Cutting Up Men) Manifesto, a denunciation of the entire male gender, was nearly eclipsed by her fame as the woman who shot Andy Warhol; Diane Arbus, the brilliant photographer of the grotesque and a 1971 suicide; a masochistic bottom, based on *The Story of O*, whose Mistress has taken away her name; and no less than Greta Garbo.

Al Bornstein

To the extent that *Virtually Yours* is autobiographical, however, a bit of background is in order: Once upon a time, there was a guy from Asbury

(Continued on page 37)



Derek Jarman's *Wittgenstein*.

Jarman's Film of Philosopher Leaves Much to be Desired Is It, Or Isn't It Wittgenstein?

by Jim Coughenor

In a kink of coincidence Derek Jarman might have appreciated, the Castro Theatre began its retrospective of Jarman's work the same week the iconoclastic British filmmaker died of AIDS. Last week such Jarman classics as *Sebastiane* and *Caravaggio* were screened; in the next two weeks the Castro will feature *Wittgenstein* and *Blue*—the final films of this unusual director's unusual career.

I've always found Jarman's films difficult to appreciate. Despite their obvious allegiance to leftist politics, gay sexuality and avant-garde aesthetics, Jarman's works strike me as over-determined and leaden. The gorgeous visuals and pretty boys never quite compensate for the films' didacticism, and I usually leave the theatre feeling I've been lectured rather than entertained.

Wittgenstein is no exception. In fact, it begins with the "young Wittgenstein" delivering himself of a turgid witticism: "If people did not some-

times do silly things, nothing intelligent would ever get done." How the viewer responds to Jarman's quirky approach to Wittgenstein will depend on one's taste for Jarman's "silly" style and whatever intelligence she or he can extract from it.

Whatever the film is, it's barely a biography of Wittgenstein. Jarman admits as much in his introduction to the film script (an introduction tellingly entitled "This is not a film of Ludwig Wittgenstein"): "My film does not portray or betray Ludwig. It is there to open up. It is logic." If this film is logic, it's of a peculiarly perverse sort, but maybe it's only fitting that Wittgenstein, who loudly despised British filmmakers, should end up being so artfully interpreted by one.

As many reviewers have noted, the figure of Ludwig Wittgenstein is a tempting target for artists ignorant of the intricacies of his philosophy. Naturally: the man was a brilliant mess. Wittgenstein grew up in a wealthy Viennese family at the turn of the

(Continued on page 41)

Arthur Dong's Latest Explores Military's Abuse of Queers Filmmaker Comes of Age

by Mark Freeman

Arthur Dong's mom is very happy he came home for Chinese New Year. But he couldn't stay at the family house across the street from the cable car barn in Chinatown because now, unaccustomed to them, the sounds would keep him awake.

While in San Francisco, Dong did two days of interviews to publicize his new film, *Coming Out Under Fire*, a documentary based on Allen Berube's fine book of history on gay men and lesbians during the World War II era. Dong will return from Hollywood again for the film's March 10 screening at the Castro on the closing night of the Asian American Film Festival, a gala-sponsored by Frameline, producers of the S.F. Gay/Lesbian Film Festival.

It's been a dream of Dong's "to bring the two communities together. I wanted to see straight Asian people being served cocktails by a drag queen, and get leather guys in an audience with clean-cut Chinese college girls."

That desire dates back to Dong's salad days at Galileo High in 1970, when he made his first film, a five-minute animated short about a five-year-old boy who attempts to break free of social pressures and sexual repression. A year later he dropped out of film school at San Francisco State University. "In retrospect," said Dong, "before I knew what to do with the medium

of film, I needed some growing up. So I did what everyone else did during the '70s."

A dozen years later he was working at the Chinatown unemployment office "interviewing sewing factory workers, immigrants. I began to realize how necessary it was for them to find work, to succeed." It was there that he found the subject of his first documentary.

"I used my mom to tell their stories," since it was also her story. Or part of it. The perfectly amazing accomplishment of Dong's 1982 *Sewing Woman* is that it allows Zem Ping Dong to reveal her remarkable history in typically self-effacing style. "I don't want to exaggerate my life. I was lucky," his mother begins. "All my other sisters were orphaned at birth or thrown down a well. Back home in China no one could afford more than one daughter. Too much luxury."

Somehow she arrives in San Francisco and miraculously manages to raise a family. We view them years later in a portrait shot taken at Coit Tower in the City, posed before a statue of Columbus. Documented are the sweatshops, her first Western dress, a first perm. Her story is enough to choke up anyone whose family history involves immigration (and whose doesn't?). *Sewing Woman's* cinematic storytelling earned Arthur Dong an Academy Award nomination, 12 years before *Farewell My Concubine*, a film Dong (because of his background in Chinese



Girls will be girls: a scene from Arthur Dong's *Coming Out Under Fire*.

traditional music) says he would've been proud to make.

Forbidden City

The next documentary was all singing, all dancing, but a far cry from Chinese opera and the old world. With *Forbidden City, U.S.A.*, Dong found himself a fan of Jean Harlow and the music of the 1930s and '40s. The film recalls World War II in the

port of San Francisco, and our country's first and only all-Chinese nightclub and floorshow, the model for *Flower Drum Song*. But Dong's 1989 version is far better. Like *Sewing Woman*, it collages interviews with black-and-white stills and fascinating old film clips.

In the film, we meet dancers, now past middle-age (some, undoubtedly, gay and

(Continued on page 40)

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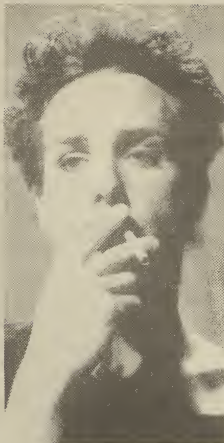
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OutThere



by Orland Outland

It's tulip season again! Don't buy the cut flowers if you want them to last more than a few days; get them in the pot instead. Tulips seem to do especially well when potted in sand. ... What's this? Why, after weeks of disturbance and turmoil, it's my little effort to bring you a controversy-free edition of OutThere. No promises, mind you, but I'm going to try. After all, there are only so many



Alexis Arquette: His sexuality is — puff, puff — nobody's business.

voice-mail messages wishing one illness and death that a columnist can stand!

The *New Republic* noted that while B'nai B'rith went out of its way to denounce the homophobic aspects of crazy racist Khalid Abdul Muhammed's notorious speech, the Gay and Lesbian

tor, the piece features only a handful of quotes from him; the bulk of it consists of interviews with Anne Rice, Neil Jordan, and David Geffen. Geffen says that Cruise "has not had any input into the script whatsoever," and that there is "not one iota of truth" in allegations that Cruise de-fagified the *Interview With the Vampire* script. The formerly deeply closeted billionaire says, "Any homophobia being alleged against Tom is an outrage and a bald-faced lie." So what's Tommy doing on *Esquire's* cover when the article features about three quotes from him? Cruise's publicist, Pat Kingsley, is notorious for keeping the print media away from her client; could she have demanded a cover story on her client in exchange for a few lousy quotes? You might think that, but, you know, I couldn't possibly.

The *Face* interviewed Alexis Arquette, the gay (?) member of the Acting Arquettes. You'll be able to see this young fresh fellow when Richard Glatzer's flick *Grief* comes to town in a few weeks. Arquette played a prominent drag role in the film version of *Last Exit to Brooklyn*, but more interesting is the info that Alexis' future friend Luke Perry was also up for that role. You might wonder what would have happened to Perry's career had he gotten the drag queen part, but I just ... you know. Arquette refuses to discuss his sexuality: "Just because I'm an actor, it doesn't mean everyone has to know about my private life. If someone wants to ask me if I'm gay or straight — if they want to fuck me, I'll tell them; if they don't, it's none of their business."

When was the last time you saw a new publication that actually got you excited? I was recently sent a copy of *Dirty*, a new publication out of NYC. The printing is top-notch, the first-person porn is pretty good if you like that sort of thing, and if you don't, the fresh, new and brilliant — brilliant! — graphic design will give you an orgasm. A writing sample, from the poem (?) "Fuck That": "Why is it that every time I'm walkin' down the street, every guy I cruise just wants to sell me drugs. Come on, man — fuck that! Give me a blow job! Why is it that every time I walk into the bank, the cute teller always smiles at me but never says anything? Fuck that! Give me your number! Why is it that the guys I meet in bars always want me to buy them drinks, when I ain't got any money? Fuck that! Get a job!" Send \$4 cash or M.O. to Chris Leslie, 140 Bergen Street, Brooklyn, NY 11217. Brilliant!

The editors have been having a hard time finding photos to fit my fulminations. Herewith, therefore, a gratuitous list: Derek Jarman, whose death is a major loss. See every one of his flicks during the Castro's three-week retrospective. Cyril Collard — is *Savage Nights* worth seeing, or is it the *Being at Home With Claude* of 1994? I'll tell you next week when I've had a chance to see it. RuPaul: I was sick of her before it was fashionable to be sick of her, so there!



Catch Jarman's oeuvre at the Castro (no matter what you may read elsewhere).

A Poem: Not long ago, I prematurely regaled you with the news that I'd be in *Details*. The piece I proposed, was called "How Can They Tell?" The editor liked the idea quite well! I asked, when all young men dress the same way/how can you tell who's straight and who's gay? I wrote it under contract, and sent it away! Then I got a call one day! The editor had handed the piece to a minion/who, it seems, didn't share his opinion! All I'd said was wrong, my research was shitty! This is not what I see on the streets of New York City! No matter that most people don't live in that town/fashion revolts elsewhere must needs be put down! I wouldn't bore you



Luke Perry: In costume for *The Tanya Tucker Story*?

with this story, but I thought you should know! I publicly bragged, and will now publicly eat crow. ▼

The *OutThere* gossip line is back. Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men? Well, I've got a pretty good idea; call 995-2342 and find out.

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SFMOMA Unveils "Artistic Treasure"

Jess: Yes!

by Roberto Friedman

Fairy tales, ancient myth, Madison Avenue and an exuberant imagination converge in the fantastic work of San Francisco artist Jess, whose 40-year career is now being celebrated in Jess: A Grand Collage, 1951-1993, a new show that just opened at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. The exhibit is pure visual delight, a baroque treat to grace the obsolete museum before it closes at year's end to move to swankier quarters.

The single-monikered artist (Jess dropped his last name in the '50s) is something of an insider's legend. SFMOMA Director John Lane calls Jess an "artistic treasure of the Bay Area," and Curator of Painting and Sculpture Gary Garrels remarks that the native Californian has "one of the most underground reputations of any major artist." There are reasons for Jess's status as a well-kept secret among American museums and collectors, but more on those later. First let me try to describe some of the 85 artworks on exhibit.

Jess worked in the late forties as a radiochemist, helping to produce plutonium. One night he had a dream — a vision? — that the world would be destroyed in 1975, and dropped atomic work like a hot radioactive potato, moving to San Francisco in 1949 and enrolling at what is now the San Francisco Art Institute. He soon met the gay Romantic poet Robert Duncan; they moved in together and were life partners until Duncan's death in 1988.

His first abstract paintings show influences from teachers Clyfford Still and Edward Corbett; the show at SFMOMA is intelligently hung so that this early work abuts the gallery hung with Still canvasses. But Jess soon moved on to painting representational imagery, mythic landscapes and fantasy worlds populated by mysterious figures, both divine and animal.

The retrospective includes a number of paintings from his *Translations* series, copies from photographs and 19th-Century illustrations which the artist rendered in thick, sculptural applications of oils — so thick that the canvasses are mounted on wood, lest the gobs of paint pull them over. By now Jess's esoteric sensibility is fully in evidence: sources range from *Scientific American* illustrations to Aztec pictograms, from Greek vase painting to a bubblegum trading card of the Fab Four. On the back of his paintings Jess inscribed passages from literary sources: Socrates, Thomas Hardy, the Popul Vuh. One can picture Jess and Duncan poring over mythology texts and Victorian poetry late into the night.

One begins to understand, as well, why Jess has remained a largely unsung hero in contemporary art. He painted an old-fashioned scene like *The Lament For Icarus: Translation #25*, complete with homoerotic subject and mourning naiads, in 1970, when illustrating the classic myths was not very much in

art world fashion.

The group of works Jess calls *Paste-Ups*, elaborate collages of images culled from magazines, books and jigsaw puzzles, steals the show. Some of these feasts for the eye are six feet across; their kaleidoscopic worlds spill out onto the frames. Jess's first paste-up, *The Mouse's Tale* (1951), is a flexing muscleman formed by dozens of posing specimens from male physique magazines. Happily, this collaged cornucopia of beefcake belongs to SFMOMA's permanent collection.

Homoeros unprofaned

Images of vigorous, beautiful male bodies appear throughout Jess's work: Greek gods, soccer players, a surfer, nudes in repose. This is art with an unabashedly gay sensibility. It shares a fey universe with Walt Whitman, Oscar Wilde, *and James Broughton.

The two male nudes which prevail over Jess's much-

worked masterpiece *The Narkissos* (1976-1991) could only have been drawn by a gay artist. Jess has called this large work in pencil a kind of self-portrait, chock full of clues and symbols from myth, wonders of nature and civilization. In his notebook Jess wrote he was "seeking finally to maintain intense homoeros unprofaned, sensuous, joyful-fearful." He has succeeded.

Jess's surrealist panoramas continue to dominate his *Salvages* series, in which he re-worked found or earlier abandoned paintings. Earlier and later paintings meld in glorious synthesis: in the latest work on display, *Whatever!* (1992), Jess's collaged embellishments completely bury the Streisand poster underneath, but for Barbra's eye. Perhaps understandably, this marvelous art was overlooked in the '60s and '70s, subsumed by the mass of second-rate psychedelia then in vogue. But this show, which is traveling across the country and ends up at the Whitney in New York, should help put the kabosh on Jess's obscurity.

It is an obscurity which is at least partly self-created. Jess is a legendary recluse.



The Narkissos, 1976/1991

The world of media interviews and photo ops is foreign to him. He attended neither the show's press preview nor its public opening. But his art is most forthcoming. Here are paintings and collages which take remarkable flights into a vivid imagination, and bring other, gayer worlds back into this one.

Jess: A Grand Collage, 1951-1993, runs through April 24 at SFMOMA, 401 Van Ness Ave. The show's visual bonanza makes a perfect complement to the Robert Ryman show also now hanging, with its serenity of all-white paintings and refreshing emptiness. Call 252-4000 for times and info. ▼

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Broadway's Jerry Herman and 'La Cage aux Folles'

That's Entertainment

by Chad Jones

The song "I Am What I Am," Broadway's most stirring gay affirmation of self, found voice through the character of ZaZa, a drag queen in the musical *La Cage aux Folles*. As ZaZa removes his make-up at the end of Act One, trades his dress for trousers and marches proudly through the audience, he belts out, "I am what I am, I am my own special creation. There's one life, and there's no return and no deposit. One life, so it's time to open up your closet." That salvo is the essence of *La Cage*: a gay man declaring to the world "I Am What I Am." San Francisco audiences will get a chance to experience ZaZa's pride — and some truly gay theatre — when a new touring production of *La Cage aux Folles* rolls into San Francisco's Orpheum Theatre on March 9.

It's a different world that *La Cage* is coming into 10 years after it first appeared on Broadway. The "triple A's" of modern life — AIDS, ACT/UP, and *Angels in America* — have changed the face of gay theater, but Jerry Herman, the man who wrote the music and lyrics for *La Cage*, and several other great Broadway greats (*Mame* and *Hello, Dolly*), says he thinks the world will be better for the return of *La Cage*. "I think *La*

Cage is needed now more than it was 10 years ago," Herman says from his hotel suite in downtown San Francisco. "I am personally very upset about only seeing gay theater or films in a tragic light. I've lost 50 friends to AIDS. It's obviously honest to portray gay themes tragically today, but *La Cage* is a happy story that is pre-AIDS. It's not about AIDS. It's about family. I think it's going to be very refreshing to see something where there's not a hospital bed on stage."

"Don't knock *La Cage* for being an entertainment simply about two gays. Don't knock that."

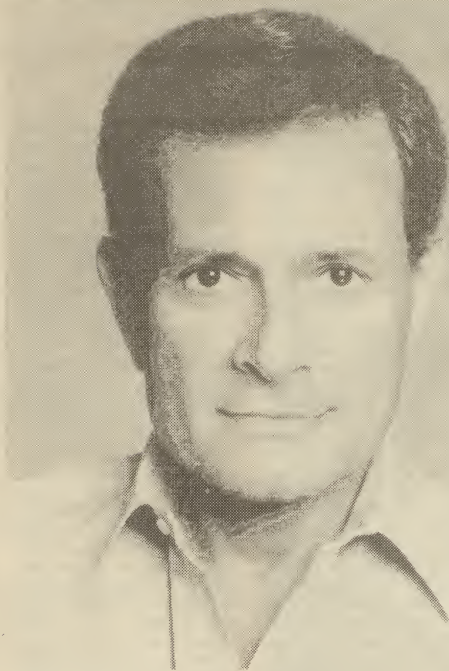
Written by Herman and gay playwright Harvey Fierstein in 1983, *La Cage* is based on a French play by Jean Poiret, which was later adapted into a series of three popular French movies. The story revolves around lovers Albin, a drag queen who performs at a St. Tropez nightclub, and Georges, the night-

club's owner. Although *La Cage* is as traditional a musical as you'd expect from the man who put the brass in Mame's bugle and the sass in Dolly Levi's matchmaking, the show was ahead of its time in depicting two gay men, their son (from George's one experiment in heterosexuality) and the existence of gay family values.

Activists don't get it

Herman says that over the years, his show has been criticized for not being militant enough. "When I hear that," Herman says, "I just sit down and say the poor souls who say these things don't understand that this show is about family and that's why it's still around. The militant plays of eight years ago will never be heard of again. We're not going to have lots of revivals of *As Is* and all those plays. I'm not knocking them. I was moved by them. I'm moved by the Larry Kramer plays, but they are political statements that are right for their times. They're just as necessary as *La Cage* is, but don't knock *La Cage* for being an entertainment simply about two gays. Don't knock that."

La Cage won six 1984 Tony Awards and ran for seven years on Broadway. It has since been produced all over the world, from Munich to Argentina to Japan. "The activists just don't understand," Herman says. "The show is



Jerry Herman: "Activists don't get it."

about a family and they don't understand that. It's about people who have to learn in their own ways. It's very moral. It's fun. I love it with all my heart. If I'm proud of anything, it's *La Cage*."

Something else that fills Herman's heart with pride is a hit single spawned from one of his scores. Nothing, he says, thrills him more than a song that takes on a life of its own outside the theater. One of the best examples is Eydie Gorme's Grammy-winning version of "If He Walked Into My Life" from *Mame*. Herman has other "greatest hits" such as "We Need a Little Christmas," also from *Mame*, and, of course, the title song from *Hello, Dolly*. "I Am What I Am," the anthem from *La Cage* has also taken on a life of its own, having been recorded by numerous singers. One of the most interesting versions, especially to a gay audience, is the disco version by Gloria Gaynor.

When asked if he likes the disco version of his song, Herman smiles, hesitates, then says, "I can't honestly say that

I like it, but I like what it is. I went to a gay pride parade on Santa Monica Boulevard, and I was standing on the curb watching all the floats go by. I was having a nice time, when all of a sudden, I hear "I Am What I Am" blasting from a float. Blasting. When it passed, all the people on the street — and I'm talking about thousands of people on the street — got crazy and started to jump up and down. It was a moment in my life that I can't describe. I was totally anonymous. Not a soul knew I had written that song. I walked away from there in tears and said 'I don't think I know what has happened with this song.' So, do I like it? Yes, of course. She doesn't sing all the right notes, but I love that she sings it. Without that record, there would be hundreds of thousands of young guys who would not know that song, so I love it."

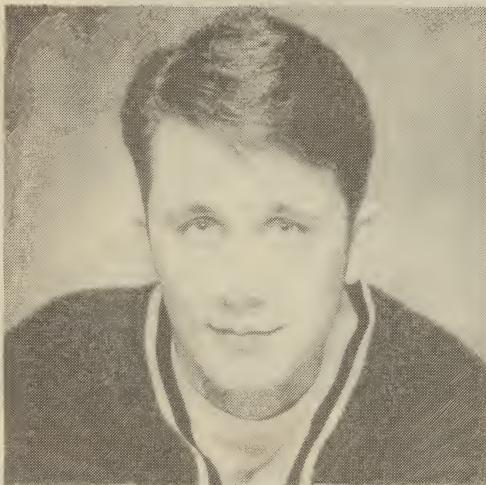
▼
Editor's Note: *La Cage aux Folles* will run from March 9 to April 3 at the Orpheum Theatre. For tickets, call 776-1999.

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Lee Roy Reams in *La Cage aux Folles*.

Bornstein

(Continued from page 33)

Park, New Jersey named Al Bornstein. For more than 30 years, Al fought the feeling that something was seriously wrong with his life — and then Al decided to become Kate. After “sex-reassignment surgery” (a “sex change,” in the vernacular), Kate burst upon the scene, as committed to a career in theatre as Al had always been.

After a while, Kate got involved with a very nice woman. It looked like she might even settle down. She and her girlfriend appeared together on *Donahue* (as part of a show on “transsexual lesbians and the women who love them”) — and it was there that Kate’s girlfriend announced to the world that she, too, “had gender issues.” A few more years have passed, and Kate’s girlfriend is now in the process of becoming Daniel.

No matter how much Prozac you’re taking, this is the kind of thing that can throw you off your stride. In many ways, of course, Bornstein was better prepared than most folks to deal with this sort of curve ball. She’s spent years as one of the country’s most articulate and ingenious spokespeople for the proposition that gender — and personal identity — are continually up for grabs. But that didn’t necessarily make it easier.

“When Daniel first started going through his change,” Bornstein recalls, “I thought, ‘I can deal with this, I’ve been through it. We’re all the same person underneath.’ But [as I say in *Virtually Yours*], ‘That’s bullshit.’ We may be the same person underneath, but the fact is when we go into a store together now, they ask *him* what we want. And that’s never happened to me before.”

Each of the characters in *Virtually Yours*, Bornstein says, represents an aspect of the fears she faced while dealing with the changes taking place in her relationship with Daniel. There’s Arbus, whose “total identification with sadness” Bornstein finds profoundly moving; there’s Garbo, for whom “identity” — at least the public identity that was thrust upon her — became so unbearable that she spent most of her life trying to outrun it. There’s even a character based on Bornstein’s mother, who recalls being taught that sons were more valuable than daughters, and who then must find a way to make peace with “my son, the lesbian.”

To many ears, all this may sound merely comical — the stuff of French bedroom farce. Fooling around with gender, of course, is a time-honored tradition in the performing arts: *All’s Well That Ends Well*, *Some Like it Hot*, *Victor/Victoria*, *Yentl*, *Tootsie*, and *Cloud 9*, to name a handful. But few writers have taken the issue beyond the level of dress-up. In the customary course of events, that is, the impersonators always throw off their “drag” and reinstate their “real” genders in the end. (Can you imagine how quickly the laughter would have died, for instance, if Mrs. Doubtfire had decided to *stay* a mom?)

But when Bornstein’s

work is done, there’s no moment in which she yanks off the wig and joins in the relieved laughter. There’s no, “Fun is fun, but let’s get back to what we all know is normal now.” Bornstein doesn’t deny the absurdity — in fact, she revels in it. (“Gender is a hoot,” she has said over and over.) But what she’s up to is something even more subversive than comedy.

Questions not answers

What Bornstein leaves lingering the stage, instead, are a series of questions: If we think men and women are really “equal,” why does the gender of our partners matter so much to us? How much of our “selves” is tied to what we believe about our genders and our sexual orientations?

“I’ve always believed that questions are much more important than answers,” says Bornstein. “Once we settle on an answer, that’s where we really fuck up. Of course,” she muses, “that could be wrong, too.”

But it probably isn’t. What Bornstein succeeds in doing whenever she appears before an audience is to create a kind of magical space in which assumptions are chal-

lenged, realities are unhinged, and certainties are held up to the light and inspected for flaws. It’s kind of like entering an anti-gravity chamber: You don’t realize, until you’re bouncing around in midair, how much gravity had been weighing you down.

For someone obsessed with questions, Bornstein’s sudden status as the girl in a boy-girl relationship brought up that most nagging issue of all — identity. Says Bornstein, “I think the point I’ve reached with this play is the idea of achieving an identity and then tossing it away. But I can’t believe how much I’m struggling and kicking, because the identity I’m tossing away right now is ‘lesbian.’ And I fought really hard for that one.”

For a moment, Bornstein is somber, even troubled. The task for her and for Daniel, she tells me — and the impetus behind *Virtually Yours* — is to find a way to be “a male and a female together (in a relationship).” But at the same time, she explains, “We’re trying to forge an identity that isn’t heterosexual.”

We stare at each other for a moment, expressions of



Bornstein creates a magical space onstage in which “assumptions are challenged and realities unhinged.”

genuine perplexity coloring our faces. And then we burst into howls of uncontrollable laughter. ▼

Beta 1.0; written and performed by Kate Bornstein; Josie’s Cabaret & Juice Joint; for information and reservations, call: 415-861-7933.

Editor’s note: Virtually Yours,

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Lee Jenkins' *'A Credit to Her Country'* at Rhino Studio

History and Beyond

by Liz Pierce

TaleSpinners Theater's production of Lee Jenkins' *A Credit to Her Country*, opening this week in the Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, is about the experiences of women in the military from the 1950s to the Persian Gulf War and is based on interviews conducted during the past year with over two dozen people. In her recordings, which focused on lesbian and bisexual women, Jenkins, a member of the Tale Spinners' Oral History Playwrights Project, discovered both similar and contrasting impressions and both negative and positive recollections of life in the service. Many of the memories,

whether filled with humor, irony or sadness, are of softball and beer, falling in love, making lifelong friends, and, also, enduring sexual harassment (and frequent assault) by men to avoid coming under suspicion as being lesbian.

Some women found great freedom in military life despite prejudice against their gender and sexuality, and regarded their tenure as an opportunity to make changes in an anti-female system. Others experienced only hardship, betrayal, painful interrogations, mistreatment, and less than honorable discharges.

In an interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*, the author discussed the difference between continuing to develop a script while it is in re-

hearsal and completing it prior to production. The critical distinction is process — and the degree to which others are involved in the crafting of the script.

Although there may be some feedback from col-

Some women found great freedom in military life despite prejudice against their gender and sexuality.



Lee Jenkins

leagues when writing a script, it is, essentially, a solitary activity. But in the workshop situation, when a script continues to evolve throughout its rehearsal, one must be very flexible as a writer because of the impact that a director, dramaturg, designers and actors have on the work. Jenkins notes that one has to, on short notice, make changes, add material, and, perhaps hardest of all, sometimes say goodbye to characters and scenes that may have taken a great deal of time to create.

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A Sense of Discovery

Jenkins says that "working with actors makes a huge difference" and that she enjoyed "creating scenes for them" from the taped interviews. This process of creating dialogue between characters out of the story of an individual, or the "breaking out" of oral history into multicharacter interactions, is what she calls "working beyond the narra-

tive given in an oral history, to give a sense of drama and discovery" in the form of scenes. The playwright also enjoyed the challenge of working directly with oral histories, of taking the stories within the narratives and making them interconnect, reinforce and juxtapose each other, often in sharp counterpoint. In *A Credit to Her Country*, Jenkins has also crafted several characters as composite figures who combine the experiences of several interviewees.

The final effect is tapestry-like, as the author, in fusing the documentation of the historian with the creativity of the artist, weaves threads of stories through a collage of experiences of those who served, or tried to serve, in the U.S. military.

Directly related to this ambitious project is a course, "Women and Words," that Jenkins, an SFSU professor in the Speech and Communication Department, is currently teaching. "Women and Words" concerns women in relationship to language and communication, which includes oral interpretation and

the performance of oral history. She calls it a "reclaiming of women's expressive art forms and development of their advocacy skills."

Directing *A Credit to Her Country* is Tale Spinners Artistic Director Paul Hellyer, perhaps best known locally for his collaboration with Industrial Strength productions and his direction of their award-winning productions of Steven Berkoff's *East and Greek*. Among the cast members are Gina Fields, Michelle Cordero, local stand-up comedian Liz Olsen, Tale Spinners regulars Mitzie Abe and Judie Messier, and character actor Patrick McGrath. ▼

Editor's note: *A Credit to Her Country* is in a workshop production at the Theatre Rhinoceros Studio Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 3 p.m., through March 27. Post-performance discussions will be held on Thursdays, March 10 and 17, and Sunday, March 20. Tickets are \$10-12. Student/senior and group discounts are available. For information and reservations, call 861-5079.

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All of a sudden the works of a playwright you probably never heard of — Pierre Carlet de Chamblain de Marivaux — are popping up at theatres across the country. An article in the February *American Theatre Magazine* explains the phenomenon using lengthy apostrophes of Marivaux's work. But to comprehend more easily the enormous appeal of this strangely neglected 18th-century author, all you need

do is get to the Berkeley Repertory Theatre, where an absolutely delicious production of Marivaux's *The Triumph of Love* will delight your wits, please your eye, and tease your emotions.

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It's a neat trick, which could only be pulled off by a writer as knowledgeable of the byways of the heart, and as cunning with words as Marivaux. This *Triumph of Love* is superbly acted by the company, and has been glowingly mounted by Stephen



Michael Flynn

Wadsworth, who brings a musical flow to the courtly drama. Not content to merely buff the surface frivolity to a high sheen, Wadsworth repeatedly plunges beyond the mask of manners to reveal the profoundly touching aspects of love hidden within.

"All must yield when Love speaks," says Marivaux, and we, in turn, must yield to his elegant, human, and touching discourse on love. This is a memorable play, triumphantly produced. For tickets and information, call 510-845-4700. ▼

—John F. Karr

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Ralph Lemon Dance Company

Feel the Music

by Eric Hellman

The press clippings were voluminous, most of them rave reviews. My expectations, based on having seen a couple of short pieces at the first Black Choreographers' Festival in 1990, were high. So what went wrong at last week's performances by Ralph Lemon Dance Company? On Thursday, the troupe's opening night at Fort Mason's Cowell Theatre, why did a good 20 percent of the audience leave at intermission?

Perhaps — and this is something one can only surmise — today's modern dance audience has finally outgrown the tedium and cerebral obfuscation of '70s dance formalism? If this is correct, then choreographer Lemon, despite his admirable ensemble of well-trained dancers, is clearly behind the contemporary curve of artistic imagination. Lemon's movement is self-conscious (one can almost see him thinking it all out), fragmented, repetitive and, seemingly, anti-musical. One wonders if it's possible that choreographers like Lemon have no emotional or rhythmic response to the sound accompanying their work? Or is it simply an intransigent (and faulty) belief that dance and music are two separate entities?

Thursday's program

opened with a piece called *Folkdance: Sextet*, a melange of pedestrian movement (dancers walk on and off the stage with a casual randomness), rotating arms, partner pulls and floor falls. The movement was juxtaposed with the long third movement from Beethoven's Piano

Lemon's movement is self-conscious, fragmented, repetitive and, seemingly, anti-musical.

Sonata, Op. 106, revealing a complete lack of kinetic response to the composer's lush melancholy score. Such ignorance — or indifference — suggests a new barbarism for the '90s. The dancing was punctuated by occasional rounds of clapping from the dancers, an activity which seemed self-conscious and hollow.

Lemon's hostility to aural inspiration was made even more evident in a solo piece, excerpted from a larger work, called *Their Eyes Rolled Back in Ecstasy*. Danced by Lemon and accompanied by a single, electronically-synthesized and relentlessly sus-

tained chord, the piece combined lots of shoulder-to-floor action and the general rigors of an aerobics routine.

Then, and just before a large chunk of the audience decided to bolt, Lemon dispensed with sound all together in a movement-rump called (pretentiously) *Phrases Almost Biblical*. The five dancers executed a compendium of modernist imagery, including airplane arms, body flips, and bunny hops. As experiments go, it was one worthy of an advanced kindergarten class.

After the half-time break, the company returned with one final assault on the senses, a reprise, seemingly, of everything previously seen. Dancing the complete version of *Their Eyes Rolled Back in Ecstasy*, six performers delivered an enervating litany of fragmented aerobics, set (once again) to a sustained chord occasionally punctuated by interludes of pre-recorded medieval chants. *Ecstasy* confirmed that choreographer Lemon rarely thinks in terms of spatial volume or patterning, as this piece exists within the tight confines of linear dance-making.

Ralph Lemon is trying very hard to make "meaningful" movement. And that's exactly the problem. Lemon needs to relax and rejoice in his art — and this means feeling the music before the dancing begins. ▼



Ralph Lemon Dance Company.

Tomm Ruud: 1943-1994

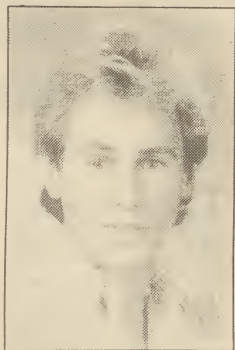
Longtime San Francisco Ballet dancer Tom Ruud died Monday of AIDS-related illnesses at his home in San Francisco. He was 50 years old.

San Francisco Ballet Artistic Director Helgi Tomasson said, "Tomm brought so much to San Francisco Ballet over the past 18 years as both performer and teacher. Tomm was the rehearsal assistant for the *Nutcracker*, and the production stands as a tribute to his devotion to the Company and the students in the School. Ruud joined the San Francisco Ballet in 1975, following ten years as a principal dancer with William Christensen's Ballet West.

Born in May, 1943, in Pasadena and raised in Afton, Wyoming, Ruud earned Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master of Fine Arts degrees in dance from the University of Utah.

Ruud was named a Principal Character Dancer of San Francisco Ballet at the end of 1986-87 season, having shown complete versatility as a dancer. He won praise for his dramatic performances of Drosselmeyer in *Nutcracker* (Christensen/Tomasson), the Rich Boy in Lew Christensen's *Filling Station*, Widow Simone in Sir Frederick Ashton's *La Fille mal Gardée*, Lord Capulet in Michael Smuin's *Romeo and Juliet*, the Tutor in Tomasson's *Swan Lake* and the Master of Ceremonies in *The Sleeping Beauty* (Tomasson).

Since joining the San



Francisco Ballet, his leading roles have included Colas in Ashton's *La Fille mal gardée*, the Cavalier in Christensen's *Nutcracker*, Romeo in Smuin's *Romeo and Juliet*, Ferdinand in *The Tempest* and step-sister in *Cinderella*. He has also performed in Jerome Robbins' *Moves and In the Night*, George Balanchine's *Western Symphony*, *Symphony in C*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Mr. Ruud made guest appearances with several national and international ballet companies and dance festivals, including the National Ballet of Canada, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, the Ninth International Ballet Festival in Havana, Cuba, the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, the 88th Conference of the International Olympics Committee at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in Los Angeles, the Pacific Northwest Ballet, the San An-

(Continued on page 50)

JARED CLARK

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Dong

(Continued from page 33)

lesbian), who had headlined at the club. Jadin Wong recalls getting letters from members of the Chinese community who warned, "we should be ashamed of ourselves...showing our legs." Paul Wing admitted to his mother that he had gone to see Fred Astaire five times at the Varsity Theatre in Palo Alto. She was quite understanding, but warned, "Don't tell your father."

During the war, we see performers from Forbidden City touring the country in a series of one-night stands, benefits for the Red Cross, at Hollywood's Stage Door Canteen and USO's, where "we sold a lot of war bonds!" Then, survivors of the Forbidden City tell what they've done since it closed in 1962. Owner Charlie Low sells insurance and package tours to Reno. Choreographer Jack Mei Ling got his cosmetology license. Dorothy Toy continued touring her Chinese Dolls review until 1972. Tony Wing taught more than 5000 Chinese-American kids to dance. And behind the kids, there's Larry Ching, the "Chinese Sinatra," his old San Francisco accent sounding more East Coast than Far East, singing a rendition of *Hawaiian Wedding Song* that brings tears to my eyes.

Film as storytelling

Dong employs a similar format for *Coming Out Under Fire*. Shot in breathtaking black and white, introduced by art deco titles and underscored with original music by Mark Adler, the film tells the stories of nine GIs. Dong interviews the sub-

jects — elderly people you might ignore if you saw them today on Castro Street — and matches them with war-years' photos, when they would've turned heads anywhere.

Memories reach back to Pearl Harbor (gunner-turned-



Arthur Dong

psychologist Stuart Loomis recalls the drugstore where his friends — "most of us gays" — heard Roosevelt's radio broadcast, and take us through induction and boot camp. (Phyllis Abry describes heterosexual women checking each other out in the showers and in uniforms — "We were all a little butchy, I guess.") Reminiscences of active combat are highlighted by what co-writer Berube calls the "useful homo" approach taken by the military, "the cynical use of people they knew to be gay...dykes in leadership and campy men as drag entertainment."

Then the purges begin, and their effects on the people we've met is devastatingly demonstrated. Bruce Lee describes the "double whammy" of being both gay and black in the "colored army" and the skill required to not "let the spotlight fall on you." Private Marvin Leibman, USAF, who

later authored *Coming Out Conservative*, recounts a crucial conversation under interrogation that would keep anyone inside their closet:

"Are you a cocksucker?"

"No, sir."

"Are you one of those New York Jew faggots?"

"No, sir."

In another scene, Sarah Davis, a butch ex-commander, breaks down onscreen.

To get a discussion going, I accused Arthur Dong of being manipulative. "I'm sorry," was his answer, in mock shock. "I'm not as bad as Steven Spielberg, am I? I certainly don't have his budgets." But he admits, "art is the manipulation of elements and sometimes I even want to be transparent about it." As in a scene of a military parade: "the confetti is falling, totally slow-mo, music creeps in, close-ups of eyes." But such artifice is acceptable because his films are driven by real people's true stories.

Dong's "filmmaking-as-storytelling" ethic is exquisitely evident in all of his endeavors, each of which explores "how society treats groups of people. They're about surviving. Coming through. Making it. This is at the core of all my films: do they fight or go along with it?"

Honors for *Forbidden City, U.S.A.* were gathered at numerous film festivals. *Coming Out Under Fire* has already won a special jury award last month at Sundance and the Teddy Award (best gay documentary) at the recent Berlin Film Festival. And this week, Dong was notified of a Rockefeller Fellowship on intercultural films that will allow him to start on his next project, a film on Asian and Anglo gay male couples. An Oscar nomination



A scene from *Coming Out Under Fire*.

seems neither out of order, nor unlikely. Some smart exhibitor will surely book the two films together soon. And then when Dong completes *Tap! The Tempo of America* (based on Rusty E. Frank's tome on tap dancers), we can expect to see a multicultural '40s trilogy.

Meanwhile, Arthur Dong's mother should be at the Castro for the closing night, as will Young Gee, his lover of 16 years, along with a large number of gay and lesbian veterans.

You can wait to see *Com-*

ing Out Under Fire someday on PBS, but wouldn't it be a lot more fun to dress in '40s clothes for the March 10 event at the Castro Theatre? Advance tickets are available at A Different Light.

Film Arts Foundation will present a seminar on the making of the film, Saturday, March 12 (10 a.m.) at 346 9th St. Call 552-8760 for details. For more information about the Asian American International Film Festival, call 863-0814. ▽

1994 Asian American Film Festival

Wait! There's More

by Ken Regis White

Bigger than ever before, this year's Asian American International Film Festival is showing well over 100 films and videos, more than 20 of which are lesbian-and-gay themed. Movies invited from other festivals, and a record number of submitted entries promise a feast for the mind and eyes. But it's easy to get lost, so here are a few tips to help you decide what to see.

A benefit program of shorts for the Asian AIDS Project, "Fear of Disclosure" (3/5, 8 p.m. Kabuki), confronts issues about coming out as HIV positive. From the anger of the title video, *Fear of Disclosure* (Phil Zwickler and David Wojnarowicz), to the activism of *Out in Silence* (Christine Choy), this program speaks to all communities dealt a blow by AIDS. Especially stirring, *Non, Je ne Regrette Rien* (Marlon Riggs) blends poetry and song with courageous testimony from black gay men. Haitian poet Assoto Saint sums up this piece nicely with a dramatic toss of his head, "No, I'm not going to be ashamed! This is a virus, let's deal with it from that fact."

Tracy Moffat

"Bedtime Stories — The Fantasy Room" has only one

queer video (*Skydiving* by Mari Keiko Gonzalez), but it also has some of the best short work in the Festival. For example, *New Freedom* (by local artist Camera Obscura), which tells a hilarious, if vulgar, tale about feminine hygiene and a girl's bloody revenge on her boy classmates. This one's outrageous, and not for the easily offended. On the same program is Tracy Moffat's gorgeous *Night Cries*, which pits resentment against devotion as an aboriginal woman tends an elderly white woman. As we ponder their relationship, Moffat overwhelms us with a sense of waiting, of patience stretched beyond endurance, an emotional quality she sustains until the final heart-breaking scene.

And don't miss Moffat's feature film — *Bedevil* (3/7, 5:30 p.m., Kabuki), a cinematic retelling of three ghost stories from her Aboriginal-Australian childhood. It's Hitchcock-meets-*Strictly Ballroom*: suspenseful, chilling scenes staged on fantastic sets are paired with informal, even campy moments; eccentric characters appear and disappear, strange things occur without explanation. *Bedevil* is bewildering, funny and creepy. Moffat is a highly imaginative director — the find of the festival.

Laurice Guillen's *Dahil* (Continued on next page)

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Also screening is *Dark Sun*; *Bright Shade*, March 4, 3:30 at the Kabuki.

(Continued from previous page)

Mahal Kita (3/6, 5 p.m., Kabuki), tells the true story of Dolzura Cortez, the first person in the Philippines to announce openly that she has AIDS. Vilma Santos, a popular Philippine actress, plays the headstrong Cortez. While the film is melodramatic (to say the least!), Santos is fabulous — just watch her upstage those queens at the beauty salon, or deck her doctor when he brings her the bad news. She clearly belongs in a league with other grand divas the world over.

Paula Mozen's *No Rewind* (3/8, 9:30 p.m., Kabuki), follows a mixed company of Bay Area teens — gay, straight and others of varied ethnicities — as they educate fellow high schoolers about HIV and safe sex using skits and straight talk. *No Rewind* plays in several programs, but your best bet for catching it is Sunday morning (3/6, 11 a.m., Kabuki), when it plays on the youth program. On the same program is *Thanh*, Laurie Collier's touching portrait of a severely disabled Vietnamese-American girl who refuses to be bitter or self-pitying.

Queer Asian Cinema

The program, "Queer Asian Cinema" (3/9, 7:30 p.m., Kabuki), is presented in association with GAPA (Gay Asian Pacific Alliance) and Asian Pacifica Sisters; it offers some good work — along with one short that provides an opportunity to go out and buy popcorn. Among the works in the former category, *Double the Trouble*, *Twice the Fun* (by Pratibha Parmar) relates the experience of disabled lesbians and gays. The film contains a daring scene in which two men work their way from wheelchairs into a bed they share, shattering the prevailing myth that the disabled don't have sex.

Straight for the Money (a work-in-progress from Hima Narumanchi) provides a gen-

uinely intriguing glimpse at lesbian sex workers. In frank interviews they explain how they got started, the difference between their private and public sexualities, and their unique views on feminism.

Definitely worthwhile is *White Christmas*, (3/9, 9:30 p.m., Kabuki). Plastic snowmen compete against the Virgin Mary, and morning Mass vies with late-night drag extravaganzas for the soul of gay director Gil Nagnaye in his wry, insightful look at Christmas Philippine-style. "In many ways, the [bar girl in Manila] and I are alike," observes Nagnaye. "We both have no problems reconciling our individual worlds with our faith: all it takes is one quick costume change."

For a fresh look at the Holocaust, try the program "After the War." On the lineup are two documentary films, *From Hawaii to the Holocaust* (Weightman and Sexton) and *Unforgettable Face* (Nicole Newnham), about Japanese-American troops sent to Europe. It turns out these units were among the first liberators of Jews in Nazi concentration camps (the irony being that the soldiers' families were still interned in California and Hawaii). The very moment of release from the camps is recounted on screen by soldiers and survivors.

Also on the bill is *Rain* (by Tati Nguyen), which shows us parents who prefer letters saying "It sure does rain a lot," than learning about what their son is really doing for the U.S. in Vietnam. *Rain* is just about everything you'd want a short film to be: it knows what it wants to say, chooses a strong metaphor to say it, and ends on the punch line. ▼

Editor's note: For more information about the Asian American International Film Festival, please call 415-863-0814.

Wittgenstein

(Continued from page 33)

century, an aristocracy of artists, financiers and suicides. Like some medieval saint, he not only renounced his privilege, he despised it. The rest of his life, spent either at Cambridge or in isolated huts in Norway and Ireland, was dedicated to obsessively destroying his obsessions. He was a rich man who hated money, a first-rate philosopher who held philosophy in contempt, an ethicist who refused to speak of ethics, and — not least — a homosexual who abhorred the needs of the flesh.

The first memoirs of Wittgenstein were fraught with reverence and admiration, like those by his student, Norman Malcolm, or the fine essay by Guy Davenport. His obsessiveness was perfectly mirrored in the severe novel *Correction*, by Thomas Bernhard (a fellow Austrian); his homosexuality was unmasked by biographer W. W. Barley III, and carefully elucidated in a recent biography by Ray Monk. But the most charming portrait of Wittgenstein and his setting may be found in Bruce Duffy's novel *The World As I Found It*. All portray a man as childish as he was profound, an intemperate, argumentative, ascetic philosopher maniacally fascinated by what he could not articulate.

Derek Jarman's *Wittgen-*

stein shows us this mysterious man without his mystery. Jarman's Wittgenstein is either an insufferable child-sage or a cantankerous professor spouting logical riddles. For me, the film veered off almost immediately, when the *enfant terrible* introduces himself: "Hello. My name is Ludwig Wittgenstein. I'm a prodigy. I'm going to tell you my sto-

original screenplay and later accused Jarman of reducing the enigma of Wittgenstein to that of a colorful character. Perhaps it shouldn't bother me that Wittgenstein, a sexually tortured man who denounced Cambridge as a "brothel," is pictured by Jarman as a man eager to hop into bed with his students. Perhaps I should celebrate Jarman's anachronistic habit of portraying everyone from St. Sebastiane to Caravaggio to Wittgenstein as "gay." Perhaps I just prefer Wittgenstein to Jarman, and should leave it at that.

But there's still the matter of the film as a film — and there's no help there. Jarman deliberately distances the viewer by setting up Wittgenstein's life as a series of garishly-colored tableau filmed against a black curtain. Aside from Karl Johnson, an actor who bears a startling resemblance to the mature Wittgenstein, none of the cast is remotely sympathetic. Even the usually wonderful Tilda Swinton is merely irritating as Lady Ottoline Morrell. The addition of a green Martian who offers arch commentary on the "action" only heightens the tedium induced by the film.

"If a question can be put at all, it can also be answered," declares the Martian in the film's final moment. Everything about Wittgenstein's life would seem to indicate the opposite conclusion. So what? This is not a film about Ludwig Wittgenstein. ▼

The gorgeous
visuals and
pretty boys of
Jarman's
films never
quite
compensate
for their
didacticism.

ry. I was born in 1889 to a filthy rich family in Vienna..." The facts are right, the tone is completely wrong. This is Wittgenstein reduced to British camp.

Perhaps it's pedantic to expect the subject of Jarman's film to resemble the subject himself. After all, even Ray Monk, Wittgenstein's biographer, has defended the "perfect taste" of *Wittgenstein* against the objections of Terry Eagleton, the Marxist English professor who wrote the

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Chilling Out With Scotland's One Dove Baking A New Cake

by Adrian Roberts

There are times when the music of One Dove reminds me of the kind one hears played in a "chill-out" room at a rave — mellow, ambient techno sounds that soothe over-stimulated senses and tired bodies. While this Scottish trio's debut album, *Morning Dove White*, takes a few of its cues from music of this genre, it smartly expands upon them, infusing traditional pop hooks into the mix of dub rhythms and ethereal vocals. The result is an album that is enchantingly warm, aided in no small part by the fact that One Dove does more than just program its samplers and sequencers — they actually play the instruments!

Formed two and a half years ago in their native Glasgow, One Dove is composed of three dynamic personalities: openly gay keyboardist Ian Carmichael, keyboardist and guitarist Jim McKiven, and singer/keyboardist Dot Allison. All quite charming and friendly, I recently had the opportunity to speak with

One Dove during their Gavin Convention stop-over last week.

★★★★

B.A.R.: In America, gay clubs were the first to play *One Dove*. In fact, gay clubs here usually set the trends in dance music. Is it the same way in Britain?

Dot: Sadly, it's the other way around actually.

Ian: In America, the gay scene has always been at the forefront of dance music. There was disco, which began in the gay scene, and then techno. But in Britain, the music in the gay scene is completely miserable. It's all that old Hi-NRG stuff, nothing hardcore.

B.A.R.: Do you feel strong ties with the rave scene there?

Jim: I think so. When we were writing the album, that's what spawned it. It wasn't going to see a great guitar band that inspired us to do an album. It was hanging out in clubs.

B.A.R.: How has the scene changed since you guys started?

Jim: Four or five years ago, it was all illegal warehouse parties, with a great time had by all. And it just grew and grew. Now, it's gone very European over in Britain — a lot of real hardcore techno. A lot has changed. For instance, you don't get Ecstasy as much anymore. The drugs change, the scene changes.

"Every classic album, every one that's ever been made, was done on drugs."

B.A.R.: Given the use of drugs within nightclub culture, were chemical substances ever an impetus in the creation of your record?

Dot: When we wrote the music, we were always keeping in mind what it would be like on drugs. We were always quite aware of it being received on that level.

Jim: Frankly, every classic album, every one that's ever been made, was done on drugs. You go through your record collection and say "Okay, which albums weren't done on drugs? And you end up with, like, Tony Bennett. Stuff like that wasn't done on drugs."



One Dove.

Dot: People fail to realize that it's the lack of questioning in life that stops one from being creative sometimes. You've got to be self-analytical and drugs can harness that.

Jim: In schools, all the classic English that they teach, all the poetry — Blake, Shelley, Byron — it was all done on drugs. They offer up these great works of art, and then say "Just say no" — when it was drugs that helped create that art!

B.A.R.: So do you hope that your music moves minds as well as bodies? Is there anything you want to get across

besides an excuse to dance?

Jim: Sure, like, don't be scared of life, don't be scared if you're gay, don't be scared if you have problems in your family. You're not a loon, it happens to everybody. Shit happens. Just be happy with who you are.

B.A.R.: Besides techno music, what else has influenced your sound?

Dot: We use so many influences from the past but our sound isn't nostalgic, it's new. We've taken the old ingredients to bake a completely new cake. ▼

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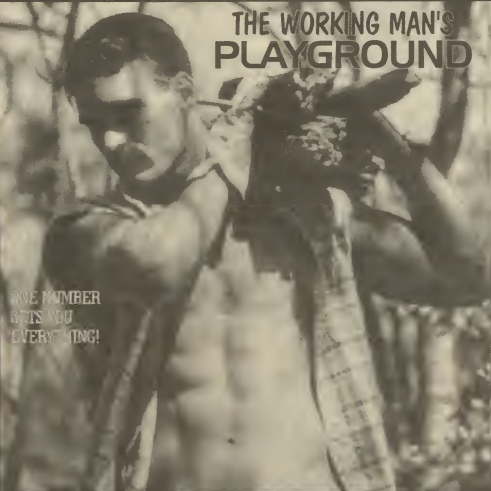
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by Roseanne Arnold; Ballantine, \$23

by Robert Julian

Fresh from wrestling Mariel Hemingway, sitcom icon Roseanne Arnold recently told *Vanity Fair*, "I have done that." The "that" in question is lesbian sex, but Arnold was quick to add the disclaimer, "I didn't have sex with none of them cow dykes and pool players." Yet in her current autobiographical release, *My Lives*, Arnold reveals no first-person same-sex encounters whatsoever. She's simply full of praise for those loyal Denver bull daggers who helped her get started in stand up.

My Lives is a quick read in which Arnold vents her spleen in every direction. No doubt, it provided the author with a quick release of tension and some fast money — much like the tricks she used to turn in her car between sets at comedy clubs. You don't have to be Sigmund Freud to realize the author is borderline nuts, but the only thing harder than liking Roseanne Arnold is disliking her. She's smart, determined, and she pulls absolutely no punches in skewering *The Industry* and its treatment of women.

Arnold seems to view herself as a feminist first and an incest survivor second. Her other identities — in descend-

ing order — are comedian, actress, and writer. Sentences like, "Empty is the face of the vessel that waits for restoration by the shore," — offered up without a trace of irony — make the last place finish of "writer" more than appropriate. And the abysmal original poetry included in this volume places the appellation "poet" way off the Arnold chart.

Good, Bad, Ugly

With the dubious triumphs of Bill Clinton, Tonya Harding, John Bobbitt, and Roseanne Arnold, it's perfectly clear to me that the '90s are becoming the white trash decade. As the Reagan/Bush ennui recedes into history, the world now gets to see how the other half lives — and it isn't a pretty sight. *My Lives* is hardly a tongue-in-cheek look at the jolly life of a comic. It's the down and dirty dish of a trailer-court heroine who was neglected — if not despised — from day one, and who ultimately had a life in spite of the odds. Arnold, when she's on a roll, infuses her sketchy life story with the bitter humor of a distaff Lenny Bruce on Prozac. But unfortunately Arnold isn't far enough through her own personal process that she can take responsibility for her failures as well as her tri-

umphs. Everything good that happened (fame, wealth, her TV series, her marriage to Tom Arnold) occurred because of Roseanne. Every terrible bad that happened (miserable relationships with relatives and co-workers, giving a child up for adoption, drug addiction) occurred because other people are assholes. This level of self-awareness wears thin rather quickly.

Arnold's sense of social justice, which she extends to lesbians and gays in a big and visible way in her TV series, redeems many of her excesses. And her sense of humor always comes to the rescue — never more brilliantly than in the chapter "Oh, Say Can You Sing?" in which she describes the flap over her rendering of the National Anthem. "I looked up and all I saw were 64,000 Edvard Munch faces, all adenoids and Adam's apples. The whole place was booing me."

At the end of *My Lives*, Arnold is still tackling her demons, making progress by cutting herself off from her abusive family and taking control of her life. Others will have to judge if cosmetic surgery and dieting are appropriate for a radical feminist. Right now, Arnold is too busy mowing down the opposition and celebrating her hillbilly self. Most readers will probably wish her well. ▼

BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS AND FITNESS

Gay-Games Runners Get Ready For Games IV

Registration, Relays and More

by Rick Thoman

With less than four months before the start of Gay Games IV, registration for track & field remains open, but be warned: the March 31st entry deadline is rapidly approaching. For Gay Games Track & Field registration forms, contact the San Francisco Track & Field Club at (415) 550-7966.

For athletes who have registered but are having second thoughts about the events they signed up for, there is a slight possibility that New York organizers may consider some event changes. Maybe.

If you want to switch events, you *must* notify the New York Gay Games Track & Field Chairman in writing as soon as possible. Organizers will then determine the feasibility of your request, whether or not there is still room available in the event(s) you'd prefer to compete in, and what kind of "processing" fee, if any, should be attached to your request for switching. The important thing is to notify officials immediately.

Relay squads must submit their team rosters by May 1st. The SF Track & Field Club is continuing to hold relay "run-offs" to determine the make-up of their squads. The final run-off (unless there is an extension due to inclement weather) will be on Sunday, March 6th, at the usual 10 a.m. practice session. Anyone who wants to compete in the relay events (4x100, 4x200 and 4x400) for San Francisco should notify the SFT&FC by the March 6 deadline. Athletes who register for the relays but do not have their names submitted as a member of a specific team will be assigned to a team by New York organizers. According to those officials, no one can just show up at the Games and put together a team.

"So far, it looks like we have two teams in the 30-39 age group in all 3 relays," noted SFT&FC co-coach Frank Demby. "And we have at least one team in both the 18-29 and 40-49 age groups, with the possibility of additional squads. Everyone has been running great and we should have some medal caliber teams for New York."

The SFT&FC is also considering an intra-squad meet the first part of April. "Unfortunately, we don't have a lot of meets scheduled between now and the Games, and we want to give everyone the opportunity to experience some competition prior to New York," commented Demby, "so we're trying to put together a very informal meet amongst the team and anyone else who wants to participate."

Uniform orders for the track & field team are being taken in conjunction with the San Francisco marathon squad. "These are the uniforms you'll be competing in," Demby pointed out, "not the opening and closing ceremony garments that Team San Francisco is handling." To order uniforms for track & field, contact Rick (415-550-7966), and for marathon competitors, call Dave (415-626-1380). In an effort to raise money to offset the cost of uniforms, the SF Track & Field Club will hold a garage sale Saturday, March 12th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 2162 Grove Street (near St. Mary's Hospital).

Although they may not have official uniforms yet, SF track team members are already showing their readiness to compete in New York. Participating in the recently completed series of All Comers meets at U.C. Berkeley, SFT&FC members performed some excellent early season runs. Notable among competitors were Gwynn Villegas and Lefe Fowler in the

200 & 400 meters, Rob Lenderink (400/800/1500m), Valerie Scott (400/800m), and Reggie Snowden (long jump and hurdles).

"The team is generating some outstanding times after only two months of training on the track," stated co-coach Frank Demby. "If we're looking this good now, we anticipate a superb showing at the Gay Games in June."

Demby said he was impressed not only by the work veterans on the team have put in, but by newcomers as well. "Because it's a Gay Games year, we've had a lot of new people come out and join us and they've all been doing a great job," he observed. "It looks like we're going to have a strong team taking the track in New York."

Gay Games IV track & field competition will begin Monday, June 20th and run everyday through Friday, June 24th. The competition will be held on Randall's Island at Downing Stadium. "The location is a little out of the way, but we hope some Bay Area fans will make their way out there and give us some support," Demby wished.

The San Francisco Track



Rob Lenderink

& Field Club meets every Tuesday and Thursday evening at 6 p.m. in addition to the Sunday morning 10 a.m.

a.m. workouts. All workouts are at Kezar Stadium (Lincoln & Stanyan) in San Francisco. ▼

volleyball

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for more information

Mazgai's Best Game Yet

by Joe Nelson

Booyed by the presence of the Bay Area Raw Rahs, the Hotshots played an excellent game against the first place team last week. Yes, they lost to Scott's Electric team, but the final score — 77 to 67 — was representative of the difference between the team's scores for most of the game. The teams were only four points apart at half-time, despite the absence of three of five starters.

The Bay Area Raw Rahs showed up and filled the gym with noise throughout the game. They're going to be in New York for the Stonewall Celebration and Gay Games.

Michael Mazgai scored 22 points (that's 50 percent shoot-

ing) and ripped ten rebounds leading the team. Mark Johnson totaled 17, eight boards and three three-pointers. He had just returned from his honeymoon in Mexico. Jerome "Louie" Lewis had 17 along with six rebounds and a three-pointer. The coach, Eliot Kahn, got five points and three boards. Jake McDonald got four and two steals. Joe Robinson and Mark Satre had four boards each.

Out of five remaining games, the Hotshots have only one team that has a winning record, so their season should get a little smoother from this point on. Thursday, March 3, the Hotshots play the S.F. Fire Department team at 8:50 p.m. at the Collingwood Gym. ▼

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Positively Healthy

by Jim Provenzano

Among the many panaceas for fighting HIV, little enough attention is paid to what we eat. Your doctor may say "diet," but what does that really mean?

The HIV+ Survival Guide: Diet for Living in the Age of AIDS, makes a strong attempt to rectify the situation, but its strictures may scare people away from realizing its benefits.

A slickly-produced video from LA that retails for about \$40, *The HIV+ Survival Guide* is hosted and co-produced by Steve Frankel, an HIV-positive nutrition counselor. Frankel is a member of LifeForce, a holistic healing non-profit organization with ties to Louise Hay/Marianne Williamson circuit, which is either a comfort or a warning, depending on what side of the New Age fence you sit on.

Although well-meaning and campy in a slightly dry way, Frankel's overly articulated delivery is a bit hard to take on a large screen. To break up the monotony of Frankel's uh...interesting features, the tape shows scenes of happy people with HIV living their lives (the abundance of cheerful smiles gets a little annoying). A series of swiftly

moving video graphics whoosh by explaining the uses and benefits of vitamins and minerals found in organic foods. This is information that should be written down, so a dieter can follow its recommendations with each shopping trip. Are we supposed to watch the tape each time before going to the health food store?

Frankel's diet is not a new thing, in fact it's ancient, which is its strongest feature. Basically a macrobiotic diet that rejects meat, dairy, sugar and acidic tomatoes (among other things), the regimen is to be recommended for its blatant dissention from status quo nutritional beliefs.

Frankel cites meat and dairy products as harbingers of viruses, yeasts and potential allergic reactions that people living with HIV should avoid. Hamburgers are shown in their most disgusting light, as are fried foods and slabs of butcher's meat hanging on hooks. It's easy to imagine a wholesome vegetarian world free of additives and pesticides in which HIV infection problems could be kept to a minimum.

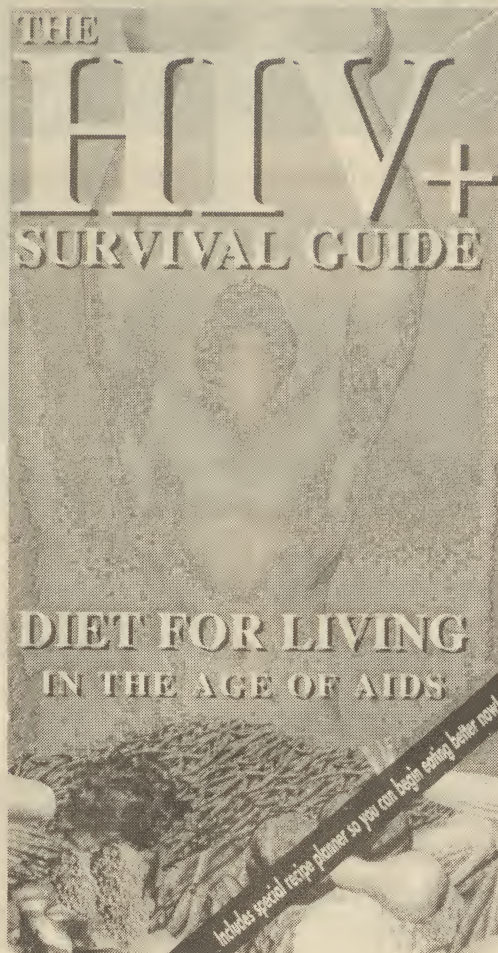
Making a guest appearance is actor Dirk Benedict, who conquered prostate cancer with this recipe (hopefully he

won't share it with Jesse Helms). Benedict, whose performance in *Battlestar Galactica* was highly underrated, serves as a sort of red het hering. While the video is hosted by a gay man, it seems the producers needed somebody to aid their marketing toward all folks with HIV, and anyone concerned about their health.

While the diet, full of Asian staples like Miso soup, is certainly commendable as an alternative to cancer-causing meat, phlegm-inducing dairy and those other toxins like sugar, empty starches and excess fat, the video doesn't mention fish, homemade pastas or many other foods. The recipes that Frankel and Benedict cook in their little kitchen set are appetizing, and his shopping trip to the artfully arranged whole food store is picturesque, to say the least. This writer was inspired to cook up a lovely dairy-free vichisoise (merely potato and leek soup).

But the severity of the diet's strictness leaves questions about anybody's ability to make such a drastic change to a low-on-the-food-chain diet, positive or not. The local focus flies in the face of the whimsical *Diseased Pariah News* "Get fat, don't die!" theorem. To a PWA suffering from wasting syndrome, the potential long-term carcinogenic effects of a cheeseburger don't seem to be a real threat. If he or she can eat anything at all, that's a good thing.

And face it, when was the last time you really had a craving for bok choy?



The HIV+ Survival Guide: Diet for Living in the Age of AIDS, is available by

calling 1-800-788-8823 and at several Castro area health food stores.

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Sports Guide

Basketball

San Francisco Slammers women's basketball team. Call Susan at 648-4931.

Men's Basketball — call Tony at 621-2716.

Bicycling

Different Spokes Bicycle Club promotes noncompetitive cycling for men and women on both road and mountain bikes. Rides each weekend, plus regular "Decide and Ride" each Sunday at 10 a.m., McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park. For schedule or newsletter, please call (415) 282-1647 or write PO Box 14711, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Boating

Barbary Coast Boating Club — gay boat owners and enthusiasts meet the 3rd Wednesday of every month, 7 p.m., Berkeley Yacht Club, Berkeley Marina. West to the end of University Ave., #1 Seawall Drive, (415) 905-6267.

Bodybuilding

Arcadia Bodybuilding Society — call 978-9495 or write ABS, 1230 Market Street, SF, CA 94114.

Bowling

Women's Business Bowling League. Call Ann at 641-5795.

Tavern Guild Bowling League. Call Mal Garcia at 752-2366.

Japantown Bowl. Mon., Tues., Wed.: Community Leagues at 8:45 p.m. Thurs.: Bartender's League at 1 p.m. Fri.: Trio's League, 6 p.m. and Sun.: Reno League, 6 p.m. Call Don George at 255-9401 for information.

East Bay Gay and Lesbian Bowling League meets every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. Teams/individuals of all skill levels are welcome. Contact Mark at 510-797-6997 for information.

Boxing

Bay Area Boxing Club, a fully sanctioned USABF (United States Amateur Boxing Federation) meets Thursdays at 8 p.m. Open to all interested gay men and lesbians; all skill levels are welcome. Call Greg at 585-2365.

Football

Women's Flag Football: Interested women call Maureen (415) 479-1131.

San Francisco Trojans Football. Two games every Saturday, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., at Silver Terrace near Silver and Bayshore, SF. All skill levels welcome. Call Gary at 344-8873.

Hiking

San Francisco Hiking Club — Call Clyde at 285-1260.

Gay and Lesbian Sierrans, official activity section of the Sierra Club. Call the hotline: 281-5666.

South Bay GLS — call the Loma Prieta GLS hotline at 408-236-2170.

Racquet and Paddle Sports

Gay & Lesbian Tennis Federation — John McEnhill, 864-0187, extension 4. Informal social doubles every Saturday and Sunday morning at the Flint and 16th Street tennis courts, weather permitting.

Table Tennis Anyone? Practice Tuesdays, 7:00-9:30 p.m., at Milberry Union, UCSF, 500 Parnassus, SF. Call Allen Balderson, 626-1787, or Lucie, 387-4476.

Running

San Francisco FrontRunners. Fun runs at Stow Lake Boat House in Golden Gate Park, every Saturday, 9 a.m. No-host brunch follows. Call John at 863-0954.

San Francisco Track & Field, practice every Tues. and Thurs., 6 p.m., and Sun., 10:00 a.m., at Kezar Stadium on Waller & Stanyan streets, SF. Call Rick 550-7966.

Bay Area Distance Runners. Call Dave Studach at 626-1380 or Lois Allen at 586-6013.

Scuba Diving

Northern California Rainbow Divers: Lesbian and Gay Scuba Club for the active diver in Northern California. Meets second Tuesday of every month, 7:30 p.m. at the Sierra Club, 730 Polk Street, San Francisco. Call Greg Abrams for more info, (415) 821-2877.f

Skiing

Saga North, lesbian and

(Continued on page 50)

BarTalk Personals

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PARTING GLANCES

Becks Motor Lodge. Tues. 2/22, 11:30 p.m.: saw you by your car. You got into my truck and we went to near-by lot. Talked then played. Are you free to play again? EXT 2272.

Red Pickle. Thur. 2/24, 1:10p.m. You blonde w/ black&white spangle, on motorcycle. Glanced under freeway on Duboce. You got on Harrison I got stuck at light. Lets do lunch? EXT 2273.

WOMEN SEEKING ADVENTURE

Latina Lesbian seeking hot encounters with other lesbians who can sexually express themselves. Open to serious relationship. EXT 2175.

MEN SEEKING RELATIONSHIPS

BM bottom, 30yo, 6'1", 160, seeks WH/M, 30-40, in shape, movies romantic dinner. Honest great sense of humor. EXT 2159.

Prof GWM, 39 looking to meet new people for friendships, many interests and tastes, serious inquiries only. EXT 2160.

GWM, 41, 5'7", 120, br/bl short beard, seeks W/L BB for romance. Take me to the gym, I'll take you to a good concert. EXT 2161.

East Bay GWM, 42, 5'10", 175, Blk/Hz, seeks attractive, educated, humorous Latin or Italian man for friendship/romance/dating. HIVneg. Moustache, hairy a plus. EXT 2162

Cute, shy GWM, 22, 6', San Mateo Co., skg GM, 18-24, for friendship/dating, poss LTR. Appreciate walking on the beach, movies, sincerity. EXT 2163.

I'm looking for cute, W, high class, HIV neg., BTM guy, 25 to 45, interested in establishing a comfortable life living just one man. EXT 2164.

Hirsute, LT 40's attr GWMwill clean, grovel to nice big smooth fute. Like men 40-60, naturally masterful. I'm HIVneg. East Bay. Your place. EXT 2165.

Hello out there. I'm a 48 GWM Vallejo seeking a younger me 4 LTR 5'8" 145 hair/love sex/friend/caring not into bars just a human hoping. EXT 2166.

Valley boys with foreskin. Working out. Nutrition and health. LIVE105/KROQ. Cars. Computers. Politics of the Plague. These a some of my interests. Tell me about yours. Smoke/drug free, HIVpos only please. EXT 2168.

I'm W, under 30, seeking mature Asian man for massage; friendship which could become more. I like gentle touch & sincerity. Let's meet. Okay? EXT 2179.

GWM 33yo, 5'9", 130, slim build looking 4 Asian, white guys W/BB mature and be ready for LTR let's get to know each other, 25-35. EXT 2183.

Paraplegic? Seeking Gay/Bi B/L/A para. friends? Dating? GWM para., 38, Bl/Gr, red beard/moustache, hairy. EXT 2221

GAM, tall, 32, 235#, smoker, nice guy still seeking LTR with chubby GWM who is jovial, good natured, caring, 35-55. EXT 2222.

Hot, masculine GBM seeks GWM, 30's, with hungry ass for eager dick, versatile on occasion, leather types a plus. EXT 2224.

Goodlooking, 28, GWM, 5'6", 135, Bl/Bi, HIVneg, honest seeks monogamous, attractive, masculine partner. Call. What can we lose. EXT 2225.

Handsome GWM: 35, HIVpos, healthy, top, Bl/Bi, 6', 175, clean cut, smoker, occasional recreational drugs, Cut 8", seeking passionate, handsome young man for dating/possible relationship. EXT 2226.

Wheelchair guy, soon to be lawyer, seeks big-hearted, high self-esteem, sincere guy to share enriching, loving, happiness and life. EXT 2234.

Hairy GWM, 239#, husky, balding, moustache seeks guy, 20-30, with attractive boyish looks for possible relationship. I enjoy safe sex and more. EXT 2228

Sincere GAM, 5'9", 150, Handsome, solid, living in Taipei. Seeks pen-pal, romance & possible LTR with caring special GWM. EXT 2236

Handsome, affectionate WM, 37, 6'1", 180#, wants to cuddle with slim, boyish student pal. You: 18-21 (look younger?), fun & romantic. EXT 2237.

Mind plus Brawn. 34 y/o HIV- natural good looks, in shape blonde, masculine, spiritual man seeking non-clone 25-35 y/o keen, intelligent, w/ defined body. EXT 2238.

Masculine & Gymtoned Asian, 46, 5'9", seeks similar clean-shaven & smooth WM for friendship or safe intimate encounters. EXT 2239.

Attractive, sincere, masculine, sensual, HIV-, bearded, hairy, trim WM, 40, 140#, 5'6". Seeks friendship-LTR w/ fascinating, healthy, proportionate WH/M. N/S, N/D, no bars. EXT 2240.

I love the Bay Area. Seeking friends into bicycling, ballet/dance, fetish for rights, not into drag. I live in Orlando, FL. EXT 2241.

Goodlooking GWM, 24, seek cute camping, hiking, dinner, & cuddling partner. Possible LTR with the right guy. HIV-. EXT 2242.

New kid moving to SF. GBM 34 195#, 6', hairy bottom, looking for someone to show me the city. EXT 2243.

Butt Play. 37 y/o bottom goodlooking, seeks teacher, experienced top for safe erotic buttplay, kinky fantasies, like slings. EXT 2244.

Black Professional Male. Seeks white males 55-60 y/o who like black oral sex. Married men hungry for some loving, a plus. EXT 2245.

GWM 33yo. Slim looking for LTR with Asian, white guys 25-35yo. Be mature, fun loving and ready to commit. Lets talk. EXT 2246.

Looking for younger BM to make love to an older GWM. This GWM is looking to be used by younger GBM ages 19-29 within SF area only. I am clean and very healthy. EXT 2247.

San Jose GWM, 40, 6'1", 195#, very goodlooking, built, interested in meeting WHM 30-45 y/o, well endowed, masculine, muscular, hairy chested for LTR, sharing - HIV+. EXT 2248.

Hawaiian, 6'1", 200#, seeks fun-loving bud. Gym-toned bunnies & attitude queens can go to next ad. Lovers of laughter & Sunday a.m.s, call me. EXT 2249.

Aussie Guy in Santa Rosa. 30's, 6', 180#, seeking friendship & possible LTR with mid 30's guy. Sense of humor a must. EXT 2250.

Blond bottom Man, 37, HIV-, beautiful buffed body seeks buffed blond HIV- boyfriend with a big meaty dick. I am lovable. EXT 2251.

Distinguished Prof. 48 GWM, 5'8", 145#, cute all over, fun-loving, caring, sexy, needs a friend for LTR who's not into bars. Stuck in Vallejo waiting for you. EXT 2252.

MEN SEEKING ADVENTURE

Attn: All Butch tops. Very hot butch bottom seeks daytime playbuddy. You be muscular, have moustache or beard and be very well hung. I'm a nice guy, young, very attractive, virile stud with moustache, muscular build, and a tight hungry hole. I know how to make you scream in wild ecstasy. NS, ND. EXT 2271.

My fantasy is to be topped by a firearm, cop, or hairy mountainman. I'm a young stud, very attractive, virile, muscular, moustached, great body, great heart, and very sensual. You be well built, have moustache or beard, and be very well hung. Lets get together and put out fires. NS, ND. EXT 2270.

Combat sports give you a boner? Strong tough hairy muscled man wants same for no-rules wrestling, glove or barefisted sparring. EXT 2169.

Blonde assneeds tongue fucking by expert mouth, dark and hairy a plus. I'm open and ready. EXT 2170.

Blonde boy seeks Asian musclebound Samuria to worship. Long hair a plus. Hit me like a truck, then teach me how to... EXT2171.

HIVpos, top, 6', 160, hairy 8" thick dick, tit play and ass play long

serious, like to party, short men with big ones, dick & hole. EXT 2172.

EZ hairy bear bottom needs dildo work and more. 33, bald, 190, 5'10". EXT 2173.

Cocksucker ready to pls. 18-30yo, lean hung boys who like to fuck mouth and ass. EXT 2174.

Feel my tongue up your hot butthole, feel my moustache in your crack. Me: Hot, 36, WM, 6', 160, Br/Bl. You: Hot N Ready. EXT 2176.

Jackoff. Let's do it. Slick slow. Drop those pants. Get comfortable. GWM 41, trim moustache, HIVneg. You: GWM/LM, 30-50, in-shape, ND-ND-NS. Leather plus. EXT 2177.

Dirty old man likes to have sex with uncuts, kinky into dirty white shorts. uncuts a plus. I am 42yo hung uncult. Leave number. EXT 2178.

Rimmer serves under clean hard man. Chair available. Obedient WM 47, 5'8", 175, athl, musc, bald, beard, I love pleasing your hole. EXT 2180.

You go naked in my small boat. You're my scrawny first mate. Sonoma County lakes & rivers. Be my age. Butt fit. I flog. EXT2181.

Massage? Hottub? Sundeck? SF?

race, must be tall. EXT 2191.

GWM, versatile, butch, bottom, hung, boyish looking, 34, seeks GWM/GLM, butch, versatile, top, muscular, fun, no fats/fems. Butch, muscular men only. Age not important. EXT 2230.

Looking for hung GWM, 35-42, muscular, hairy and top for fun and safe sex. Me: 35, Filipino, Bl/Br, smooth skin, bottom. EXT 2198.

Dominant Chicano, 35, 185, 6' needs bootlicking slave. Spanking, enemas and sexy workouts. any race. EXT 2199.

Nasty top, 39, HIVneg, hairy, into toilet trips with tall bottoms, 35-40's, who can act out; construction worker, cop, suits. EXT 2200.

Oral massage for in shape guys, 8 1/2" and up, under 35yo, by hot Asian jock, smooth and muscular body, 25yo. Hot mouth and big gun equal ecstasy. EXT 2201.

Italian GWM, 35, 5'10", 160, muscular, handsome. You: Tight toned, 30-45, You and I know openness and intimacy equal hot sex. Look me in the eyes once or 7. EXT 2202.

Pants down JO. Attractive, 40, GWM seeks GWM, 30-50. Let's pull

160, mid 40's, HIVneg, average looks/build get it up and in with VHS copy. EXT 2233.

Goodlooking WM, 33, hung big, seeks goodlooking guys hung big also. 160, 5'11", cleancut and workout four times weekly. EXT 2209.

Fabulous cocksucker for Asians to 35. Massage tool Reciproation not required but invited. Satisfaction guaranteed. EXT 2210.

Palo Alto 33yo, husky, 210, GAM seeks 7inches and above to orally service - EXT 2211.

Muscle and cock, thats what I want. If you're so fucking hot then show me how much I want it. Go ahead, make my day. EXT 2213.

Versatile GWM seeks play buddies for long, hot sex sessions. I'm 32, Br/Bl, 5'10", 145, lean, hairy, hung, HIVpos and healthy. You be similar. EXT 2216.

Aggressive, dominant WM, hung big, 5'11", gym body needs in shape WM, hairy bubble butt to eat and fuck. EXT 2217.

We're 3ft apart watching each other JO. Partying, talking about mother fucken cock worship. My place. East Bay. Late PM. Not fuck/suck trip. EXT 2218.

Wear a kilt? Uncut? My fantasy. Let's talk. WM, 36, curious about foreskin. EXT 2233.

Dildo buddy wanted by black top for hot and safe fuck, suck and dildo play. You must be submissive, clean shaven and HIVneg. EXT 2232.

Servant Male for uniformed men. Goodlooking 30yo, BB, very masculine seeks Men in uniform to serve. Must be tall. Any race. EXT 2231.

You are butch, good body, moustache, 20's - 50's, uninhibited, am very goodlooking, 38, 140, 5'9", handlebar moustache, blonde flattop, HIVneg. I'm tired of meeting toads, so please be goodlooking. EXT 2234.

GBM 40 y/o, stocky, big chest, endowed, 240#, Seeks fat, heavy men who enjoy long sessions of mutual dildo action. Lets open our butts. EXT 2253.

Gainer seeks encourager. Fat guy, 36, 5'10", 270#, hairy, bearded, ISO man who enjoys my size and wants me bigger. Tit fetish a +. EXT 2254.

Wanted: Masculine fat dudes for mutual j/o. Into all masculine fantasies, cigars, underwear, raunch scenes & straight or bi videos. EXT 2255.

Fantasize about being strip searched and humiliated by straight cop? Tm WM 39 seeks lean younger guys. EXT 2256.

Goodlooking and want a blowjob? UB Asian, white 18-35 y/o, I'm GWM 33yo. Quick call back, Quick & easy hot sex. EXT 2257.

Handsome Black Man, 5'11", 180#, 34, looking for guys who are hairy, stocky, & need to be kissed and fucked. EXT 2258.

GWM 40yo, 170#, 5'9", solid muscle, seeks hot sexy guys in great shape for hot play sessions. Smoke & drug free. Day or nights, HIV+ only. EXT 2259.

Shy? Small? Unsure? Want to try? Understanding 58 y/o BiWM, Prof.

5'10", 165#, Bald will meet/talk. Safe oral only. No anal. Soft massage. EXT 2260.

Oakland Man seeking masculine voices to satisfy my heavy dirty talk, jack off, cock worship, late p.m. fetish. Must be into partying. No shaved men. EXT 2261.

Attractive GBM, 40s, HIV- seek GWM 50-65 y/o daddy type with a big thick cock 7-9" that enjoys a warm wet mouth around his dick for hours. I'm very good (smile). EXT 2262.

You Big Bear! The more muscular you get, the more dick you must suck! Me: GBM, 5'10", 230#, w/ beard and hung. Tiltass play. In Marin. HIV- only. EXT 2263.

BM, 9"UC, HIV-, 59yo. Want: submissive, deep throated cumfreak massuer. Older, hung, pro-swordswallower a plus. Your looks unimportant. EXT 2264.

Cute Puerto Rican looking for fun safe sex with well built Black or Latin men in mid 30's. No Ferns. EXT 2265.

Goodlooking BM, 35, 6'1", Want BM, 18-45yo. I can take 10" of manhood. No gag. I guarantee you will be amazed. Deep throat. EXT 2266.

GLM 37 y/o, 5'4", 135#. I'm a bottom seeking white tops for fun. EXT 2267.

East Bay - Dig intense dirty talk, j/o, c/b worship, partying, late night 1 on 1. Not a fuck suck scene. Hung guys for buddy to buddy cock worship. EXT 2268.

Hot Handsome GWM, 5'9", hard 160# seeks steroid monster BB. Fulfill my lifelong fantasy of freaky muscle! Where are you guys? Flex! EXT 2269.

TRANSEXUAL

Are you 18-26, femme looking transgender ready for a W, attractive male, 6'2", 165, to treat you like the lady you are. Let's have dinner soon. EXT 2195.

BISEXUAL

BIWM, 29, wants to meet Bi females or lesbians for casual partying at my place in Alameda. I'll put on a private show for you and play with my butt plugs. EXT 2196.

Young WM wanted to sit on velvet tongue of Berkeley BiBM, attractive, heavyset, HIVneg, under 40. EXT 2197.

COUPLES

Two guys Cau/Latino seeking other couples and singles for evening play sessions. We are both 150 lbs, 5'10", slim bodied in our very early thirties. One versatile top the other a versatile bottom. We're into partying, buttpat, toys, FF and other carnal delights. Hot stuff. UB2. EXT 2156.

Gay Male, Peninsula, Salt and Pepper couple, (32/52), looking for other couples for friendship and possibly more. We enjoy board games, movies, theater, dancing and good conversation. EXT 2192.

Two goodlooking, 33yo WM's, hung big 8 1/2" and 9", seek third for group action. Prefer in shape and hung guys. Tops a plus. EXT 2194.

Free!!! BarTalk personals

Deadline for ads is 5:00p.m. Thursdays for the following Thursday's issue. New ads will be published in the following Thursday's issue and will run for 3 consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information and details on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ads.

SELECT A CATEGORY:
SEEKING RELATIONSHIPS: M-M _____ W-W _____ PARTING GLANCES _____
SEEKING ADVENTURE: M-M _____ W-W _____ COUPLES _____ OTHER _____
Please print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid Address and Phone # and understandable text.
NAME _____ DAY PHONE _____ EXENING PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____ Apt # _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

Write your headline here: _____

Write rest of Ad here: _____

Attach additional paper if necessary.

MAIL TO: BARTALK PERSONALS, 395 9TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94103.

WHAT'S NEW

Climbing the Walls

Ever since I saw Trisha Brown dangle from a wall, I've been transfixed by dance that veers more toward rock climbing than ballet. Like Brown, Elizabeth Streb, and other innovators, **Project Bandaloop** is one of those local groups that isn't satisfied with the horizontal plane. See them dance, move and crawl around Theater Artaud's amusing variety of climbing, clutching, hanging and dancing surfaces. Take in the premiere of three new dances, *The Sierra Dances*, *The Wild*, and *Releasing and Falling*. March 4-6, 8:30pm. \$12.50. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida at 17th. 621-7797. And kids, don't try this at home.



Under a Mantle of Stars

If you're a fan of *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, you may want to hike it to Walnut Creek to see the world premiere of playwright Manuel Puig's latest work, a comic, yet disturbing drama about the seductive power of fantasy, \$10-12. 8pm, with Sunday matinees at 3pm. Thru April 10. Maggie Crum Theatre, 1535 Giammona Dr., Walnut Creek. (510) 933-7262.

Virtually Yours, Beta 1.0

Kate Bornstein's one-woman show, with the voices of David Cale and others as personalities entered via a computer game. \$10-12. 8pm. Thru 3/20. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

SUNDAY 6

Arise

Exhibit of religious yet homoerotic "bodyscape" paintings by John Barney. Opening reception 12-4pm. Thru 4/1. Trinity Episcopal Church, 1668 Bush. 775-1117.

Charles Gatewood

Selections from the artist's new book, *Forbidden Photographs*. Thru 3/9. Morphos Gallery, 544 Hayes. 626-1936.

Judy Garland: The Concert Years

Footage from the diva's TV show, specials, and live concerts. Hosted by her very own daughter, Lorna Luft. 7pm. KQED. Channel 9.

Open Michelle Night

Monthly event of spoken word, performance and song for women. 7pm. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia. 821-4676.

Presence

Recent work by 35 Visual Aid grantees in photography, painting, sculpture and drawing. Thru 3/20. Opts Art, 250 4th. 391-9663.

Saint Asylum:

The Diplomacy of Lost Causes. Painter Robert Hernandez's exhibit of paintings of displaced people around the world. Thru 3/12. Meridian Gallery, 545 Sutter. 398-7229.

FRIDAY 4

Actors in Briefs

Short, fast-paced one-act plays by local talents Lee Brady, Daniel Curzon, Ellen George & others. \$8. Thru 3/5. Bernice St. Playhouse, 21 Bernice St. 626-6789.

Asian American International Film Festival

Premieres and showings of great shorts and features, with over 20 queer and AIDS-themed works, including Arthur Dong's long-awaited film version of Allan Berube's book, *Coming Out Under Fire*. AMC Kabuki Theatre, 1888 Post. For times, listings and ticket info, call 863-0814.

Ballad of the Sad Cafe

Edward Albee's stage adaptation of Carson McCullers' Southern gothic tale of passion, jealousy and revenge. \$10-15. 8pm. Thru 3/6. Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St. 621-4423.

Candide

Peninsula Center Stage's production of Leonard Bernstein's rollicking musical about the misadventures of Voltaire's fictional rogue. With 17 performers playing 82 roles, it should be a wild evening; costume-wise, at least. \$12-17. 8pm. Sun. at 2:30pm. Thru 3/20. Fox Theatre, 2215 Broadway, Redwood City. 329-2623.

A Credit to Her Country

Lee Jenkins play about lesbians in the US military from the '50s to the present. \$10-12. 7:30pm. Sun. at 3pm. Theatre Rhinoceros Studio, 16th & Mission. 861-5079.

Drag at Its Finest

Alexis Miranda hosts entertainment with Donna Sachet, Grand Duchess Roe Flack Franklin, Martini and others. \$3. 10pm. Lily's, 4 Valencia. Raffle proceeds benefit Shanti Project. 864-7208.

Gay & Lesbian High School Essay Contest

Evening of Comedy with Karen Ripley, music with dance band Zena, and essays by East Bay high school students. A benefit for the Bay Area Network of Gay & Lesbian Educators. \$15. 6:30pm. The Tea Spot Cafe, 2072 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley.

The Greenhouse Effect

Sally Greenhouse performs monologues about women's healthcare and sexuality, guns, Freud, serial killers and other timely stuff. \$8-12. 8:30pm. Thru 3/27. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. 641-0235.

He Plays, She Sings...Jerome Kern!

Andrew Moore and Diana Sheehan perform a musical story with songs by the composer of great cabaret

songs. \$15. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru 3/13. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. 861-8972.

Napoleon, the Camp Drag

Disco Musical Extravaganza John Fisher's twisted historical take on the Romantic era and its first superstar, with his amour Josephine played by a man. Music by Mozart, Beethoven, Verdi, and some of those "crazy Russians." \$3-5. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru 3/12. Playhouse Theatre, Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. (510) 643-9988.

'Night, Mother

Marsha Norman's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama about a tense mother-daughter relationship. \$10-14. 8pm. Thru 3/12. Theatre of Yugen, 2840 Mariposa. 621-7978.

One Night Stand

Dance, music and improvisation by 7boyjam (seven of the Bay's top dance guys: Jon Weaver, Jess Curtis, Paul Benney & others), plus High Risk Group, Kathleen Hermesdorf, Jo Krieter and lots of others. \$10. 8pm. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. 647-6165.

Sassy Girl

"Memoirs of a Poster Child Gone Awry," Cheryl Marie Wade's one-woman show that dives in and out of wild characters, "heavy duty gimps, wry crimps," and a rowdy outlook on disability that you won't see on the Jerry Lewis Telethon. \$10. 8pm. Also Sat. (8pm) & Sun. (2pm.). Brava! Theatre, 2180 Bryant. (510) 525-7960.

Scott Capurro

Gay comic joins Judy Gold & Greg Behrendt in stand up stuff. \$8-10. 9 & 11pm. Also Sat. The Punchline, 444 Battery. 397-4337.

The Secretaries

New York's Five Lesbian Brothers perform their insane new comedy about Big Bone, Oregon, and a lumber mill run by high-heeled, high-haired secretaries who binge on Slimfast and kill lumberjacks. \$10-20. 8pm. Sat. at 5pm. Sun. at 3pm. Thru 3/5. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th at Mission. 861-5079.

Shudder

Six visual artists employing different photographic techniques each make commentaries on their subjects, from news outtakes to Hollywood film strips, metal sculpture and sexual themes. Opening reception 6-9pm. Thru 3/27. Victoria Room, 180 6th St. at Howard. 255-0364.

Sonoma County Remembers

Display of the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt. Opening ceremony 7pm (on display till 10pm). New panel dedication, Sat., noon. Closing ceremony

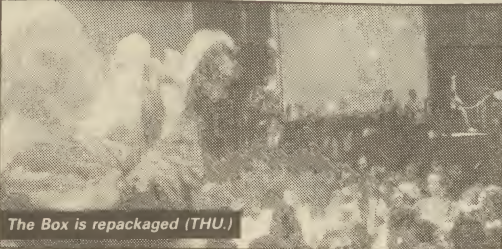
Sun., 8:45pm. (on display 9am-9pm thru the weekend). Donations will benefit Face to Face and Food for Thought. Sonoma County Fairgrounds, Santa Rosa. 544-1581.

Speed the Plow

David Mamet's high-energy satire of movie industry power brokers. \$8-10. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru 3/12. Hillbarn Theatre, 1285 Hillsdale Blvd., Foster City. 349-6411.

Suzy Berger & Doug Holsclaw

Comedy for one night. \$10.



The Box is repackaged (THU.)

10pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-5079.

Those Damn Calla Lilies

Artfull Circle Theatre has concocted another play version snatched from a film classic, this time *Stage Door*. Connie Champagne stars. \$10. 8pm. Sun. at 7pm. Extended thru 3/13. Artfull Circle Theatre, 49 Waller. 626-5455.

Le Train Du Memoir

Dziga Vertov Performance Group's dance and video rumination on the cruelties of Nazi Germany's trains that took Jews to Auschwitz. Also performing, Rachel Kaplan in her new work, *Diaspora*. \$10-14. 8pm. Sun. at 3pm. Laney College Theatre, 900 Fallon St. near 9th (right off the Lake Merritt BART stop), Oakland. (510) 889-9501.

Trauma Does Java

Trauma Flintstone, Queen of Caffeine, sings quirky tunes. 8:30pm. Cup-o-Joe, 3801 17th at Sanchez. 252-0536.

A Tribute to Balanchine

Principal dancers and soloists from New York City Ballet perform classic Balanchine dances, including *Apollo*, *Agon*, *Who Cares?* *Rubies*, and other works. \$20-36. 8pm. Thru Sun. (at 3pm). Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. (510) 642-9988.

The Triumph of Love

Adaptation of Pierre Carlet de Marivaux's mischievous and lusty commedia dell'arte comedy. Thru 3/25. Berkeley Repertory Theatre. 2025 Addison. (510) 204-8901.

SATURDAY 5

Away Alone

Janet Noble's play, set in a pub, about Irish immigrants trying to escape "the troubles" at home. Performed in a real pub with staged drunken brawls (I embrace my Irish heritage). \$10-15. 2:30pm. Sun. at 8pm. Thru 3/28. Fiddler's Green Pub, 1333 Columbus Ave. 359-6636.

Gay Comedy Night

\$10. 10pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Halcyon Days

Steven Dietz's hilarious political farce about the weird Reagan/Bush reich. \$8-10. 8pm. Sun. at 7pm. Thru 3/19. St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. (510) 549-0753.

March Drag-o-Rama

Trauma Flintstone hosts a monthly drag special, with guest Birdie-Bob Watt from *Those Damn Calla Lilies*. 10pm. Lily's, 4 Valencia at Market. 864-7208.

New Voices From Hawaii

Lois-Ann Yanamak reads from *Saturday Night at the Pahala Theatre*, and R. Zamora Linmark reads from *Rolling the R's*, about growing up gay in Hawaii. Free. 7:30pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia. 282-9246.

Out of Focus

"Gender Roles in Contemporary Asian Cinema," an illustrated lecture by Lawrence Chua, with scenes from many recent Asian films. \$5.50. 7pm. Pacific Film Archive, 2625 Durant Ave., Berkeley.

Performing Identity

Eclectic program of free-wheeling videos about Betty Page imitators, Jayne Mansfield interviewing her own cross-dressed impersonator, Charles Pierce, and sendups of Laurie Partridge and Michael Jackson. \$5. 8:30pm. ATA Gallery, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

Triangle Productions

Weekly gay and lesbian show with interviews, comedy, street fairs, AIDS info & more. 9:30pm. Cable channel 53.

MONDAY 7

Ethyl Meatplow

Aggressively rockin' homocore band. \$8. 9pm. Kennel Club, 628 Divisadero. 931-1914.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

MC Sabrina Matthews. Aspiring comics can call to sign up by 7pm. \$5. 8pm. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

Kim Edward Black

"Inner Sections," an exhibit of airbrushed paintings of nudes, religious iconography and homeless people. Thru 4/17. Architects & Heroes, 2235 Fillmore. 921-8383.



Dances of Vice (THU.)



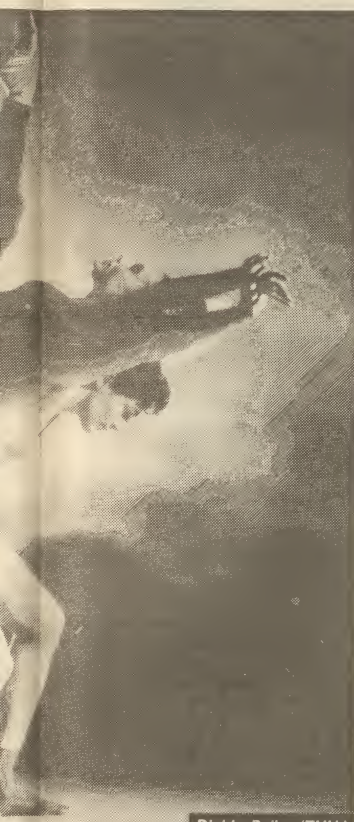
Boy meets girl

**Boy is girl
Girl loses girl
Boy loses girl
girl drops boys**

boy eats boy

Juanita More, Philip R. Ford and others in a sordid tale of broken heels and broken hearts. \$12. 7 & 9pm. The Plush Room, York Hotel, 940 Sutter. 771-5311.

Mondays will never be the same as Elvis Herselvis & the Straight White Males exhume the crooning tunes of the great surly-lipped Presley. \$2. 9pm. Mondays thru March. Cafe du Nord, 2170 Market St. 861-5016. For more gender-bending entertainment, get a taste of Tender Loins: Avengers of Lost Love, a one night only show starring Glamamore, Staci Gives,



Diablo Ballet (THU.)

Smuin Ballets/SF
New dances by the renowned choreographer, Michael Smuin. \$25 (\$125 gala reception 3/7 only). 7:30pm. Also Tuesday Center for the Arts Theater, Yerba Buena Gardens, 700 Howard at 3rd. 978-2787. Also 3/10 thru 3/27, \$20-30, 8 & 8:30pm at Theatre on the Square. 433-9500.

TUESDAY 8

Gay & Lesbian Folk Dancing
Lessons at 7:30-8pm, dancing full tilt 8:00-9:30pm. Each week at Eureka Valley Community Center. 585-9784.

Klubstitute
Birdie's Beatnik Bongo Night, with angst-ridden dropouts and Bohemian disaffection. MCs Diet Popstute & David Hawkins. \$3. Late-ish. The Stud, 9th & Harrison. 863-6623.

Lavender Lounge
A luscious look at leather. 10pm. Cable channel 47. Also shown for those with a dish on Saturdays at 3pm. Satellite channel ASC 1 (128 degress W) Channel 11. 337-4921.

Love and Other Tragedies
Cabaret singer Amy Dondy brings torch, comedy and talent to the stage. \$10. 8pm. Also 3/15. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

Rickie Lee Jones
The jazzy crooner of ballads, torch and delicious vocals is back. \$22.50. 8pm. Zellerbach Auditorium, UC Berkeley. (510) 762-BASS.

Women's Stand Up
Comedy by women of all sexual orientations, plus a few token males. 8:30pm. Cat's Grill and Alley Club, 1190 Folsom at 8th. 972-8047.

WEDNESDAY 9

Chris Brady
Exhibit of stained glass work. Thru 3/27. Castro Country Club, 4058 18th St. 552-6102.

Willi, an Evening of Wilderness and Spirit
Craig Menteer plays climber, philosopher and wilderness fanatic Willi Unsoeld, who was one of the founders of Outward Bound, in a one-man show. \$12. 8pm, 2 & 7pm on Sun. Thru 3/27. Bayfront Theatre, Bldg. B, Fort Mason. 392-4400.

THURSDAY 10

The Box
The hottest, friendliest, grooviest mixed dance club in town moves to a new space. Be there for the grand reopening. Spinmeister Page Model. 715 Harrison at 3rd.

Bruce Weinberg
Retrospective exhibition of the artist & printmaker who died of AIDS. Proceeds benefit the SF AIDS Foundation. Opening reception 5:30-8pm. Thru 3/22. Joanne Chappell Gallery, 625 2nd St. Suite 400. 777-5711.

Coming Home/Hospice Bingo
Play and raise funds for the hospice. \$12 buy-ins. 7pm. 100 Diamond St. 552-7454.

Dances of Vice
Rosa von Praunheim's expressionistic film about Anita Berber, the scandalously erotic dancer in Weimar Berlin. 6:30pm. Free. Goethe Institut, 530 Bush St. 2nd. Floor. 391-0370.

Diablo Ballet
New company with former dancers from ABT, Kirov and SF Ballet. Three premieres will be performed, plus *Le Corsaire* & the pas de deux from *Romeo and Juliet*. Accompanied by the

Diablo Ballet Orchestra. \$18, \$20 & \$100 (with gala reception). 7pm. Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek. (510) 943-SHOW.

Liz Lerman Dance Exchange
Washington, DC-based company performs four innovative dance works using Lerman's unique intergenerational company of young and old performers, including the local premiere of *Safe House: Still Looking*, with music by Ysaye Barnwell of Sweet Honey in the Rock. \$12-20. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru 3/12. Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. 392-4400.

Local 7
New dance and performance showcase by 7 local artists. \$7. 8:30pm. Thru 3/12. Dancers Group/Footwork, 3221 22nd at Mission. 824-5044.

Three Dynamite Dames
Cabaret stylings by Anna, Christiane and Cara. \$5. 8pm. Momi Toby's, 528 Laguna at Ivy. 626-1508.

Tomio Seike
Photo exhibit of striking imagery of Paris and graceful nudes. Thru 4/2. Robert Koch Gallery, 49 Geary. 421-0122.

Vaudeville Erotica
Rainbeau, Tommy Rose, Donna Sachet and others perform "erotic dance theatre" (i.e., artsy stripping). \$7. 2 drink min. 9pm. Lily's, 4 Valencia at Market. 864-7208.

Vincent Fecteau/Scott Hewicker 'Ben'
Fecteau's collection of images from the rat horror film to which Michael Jackson appropriately sang the theme song, and Hewicker's "Reconciled," a non-nostalgic take on post-Vatican II Christian crafts. And while we're discussing popes and pederasts, did you hear what they'll do if they catch Wacko Jacko with another kid? "Arrest him?" No, ordain him! Opening reception 5-8pm. Thru 3/26. Kiki, 483 14th St. 863-KIKI.



Arise (SUN.)

Monday-Friday Lunch Specials

Chicken Teriyaki Sandwich — grilled chicken breast on a french roll with red & green peppers, onions & pineapple, with french fries or salad 4.95

Barbequed Beef Sandwich on a kaiser roll with Caribbean BBQ sauce, fries or salad 3.95

Grilled Vegi-Burger with all the trimmings 3.95

Angel Hair Roma w/salad... 5.95

Sun-Dried Tomato Ravioli with creamy basil pesto, salad 6.95

Soup & Half Sandwich — Turkey B.L.T. or Tuna B.L.T. 4.50



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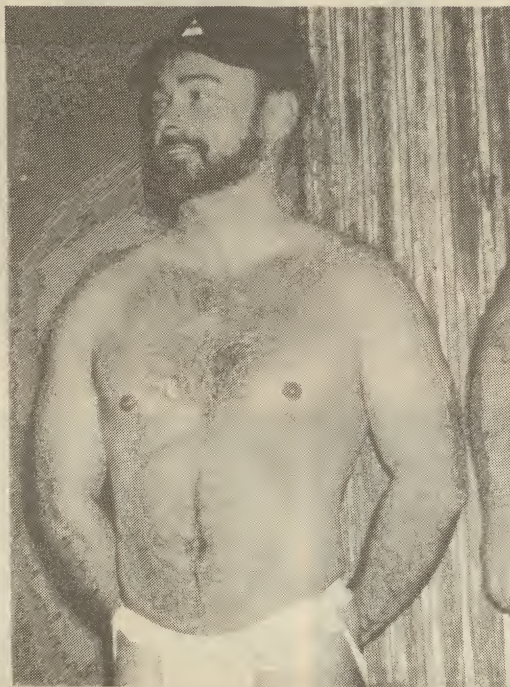
Mr. Marcus

Leathermen Feted at A.E.F. Dinner

At least four leathermen were honored at the AIDS Emergency Fund's annual awards dinner at the Hyatt Regency Hotel last Friday night. Almost 700 people (including Mayor Frank Jordan and Supervisors Carole Migden and Susan Leal) were on hand to savor the culinary arts of a dozen of San Francisco's masterful chefs. Entertainment was provided by Val Diamond, Nick Wilson, Henrietta Davis-Blackman and the City of Refuge Gospel Choir among others. A silent auction of donated items was conducted with Jayme Black and Lee Tucker modeling some of the leather outfits. I understand Jerry Colletti had the winning bid on a leather outfit to the tune of \$750! The 1994 Bare Chest Calendar cover man, Jeff Kennedy, was lurking around, too, checking for people wearing white sneakers with leather! It's long overdue and I'm thankful we've finally got a Marshmallow Pumps Patrol — he does it with a lot of zeal!

Terry Thompson of the SF Eagle earned the Zachary Long Hall of Fame Award, and in recognition of their outstanding support, Brad Cavalier, Headquarters bar owner Larry Odhner, Vern Stewart manager of the Watering Hole, and the Phoenix Uniform Club were honored before the cheering crowd. There were many more awards handed out to other worthy people and the AEF can be quite smug about the loyal support they receive from the community.

Mary Miller Marshall who "came out into leather" years



Jerry Colinar, Mr. Bear San Diego, was one of the contestants in the International Mr. Bear Contest on Sunday, Feb. 20.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

ago as a volunteer collecting money at Eagle beer busts, was also recognized. The same can be said for AEF President Emeritus Rick Salinas, who has logged many an hour at the Eagle and other venues for AEF Functions. He received the highest accolade of the evening, the Hank Cook Outstanding Service Award. I don't mean to imply

that Mary is a gay person, but that she is one of our most fervent supporters and wouldn't it be nice if there were more like her?

It was another one of those glittering evenings in San Francisco when the community turned out to laud those people who make meaningful contributions of service, talent and long hours for needy AIDS patients they may never meet. With a bonafide leatherman, Art Tomaszewski, as President of the Board, as well as other leathermen on the roster, the AEF can rest assured that the longtime support of the leather community is guaranteed. Great night!

★★★★

Aspirants to the Mr. Leather of San Francisco title are jockeying for position already and the process will continue throughout March, leading up to April 16, the scheduled date of the contest at the California Club.

Last night, Wednesday, March 2, Mr. Jackhammer 1994 was selected. Carlos Laranaga emceed. Of course, it was too late for my deadline, but I'll bring you the results next week. Selected on February 12, Greg Pennington will compete as Mr. Watering Hole Leather.

Next Tuesday, March 8, they'll pick Mr. Headquarters Leather with a \$300 cash prize, followed by the selection of Mr. Edge Leather on Friday, March 18.

The final bar contest will take place at the SF Eagle on

(Continued on next page)



Aubrey Hart Sparks won the Mr. Seattle Leather title on Saturday, Feb. 6th at Neighbors. He will compete at IML in Chicago in May.

(Photo: Cookie Andrews Hunt)

Mr. Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

Thursday, March 24, with a \$300 cash prize and a custom vest. Warren Cave, Deb Coss, Tom Hamilton and outgoing Mr. SF-Eagle Leather Andy Rose are four of the five judges. Even as you read this, Andy is in Sydney for Mardi Gras and the only SF leather titleholder on the leather-pride float! Only he can tell you what else he was on top of!

Applications are available at all of the above bars now, so if you're hankering to join the sash-rash set, win some cash and represent your bar in the Mr. Leather of SF Contest, now's the time to give it serious consideration.



The Mr. Hairy Chest III contest scheduled for Tuesday night, March 1, at Headquarters Bar was postponed and I'll give you the new date as soon as it is confirmed; however you'll be glad to know that there is another chance to win a hairy-man title. On Friday, March 11, Leather Daddy Philip Turner presents the "Furry Man" Contest at the SF Eagle to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund. Applications are available now.

Besides the \$100 cash prize for the winner, raffles will be held to win a weekend package deal (worth \$125) to the International Mr. Leather Contest in Chicago and a weekend package at the Russian River, a 50/50 raffle and a beer/soda bust for \$8. Megatone recording artist Linda Imperial will entertain. This one sounds like a hot ticket! Applications available at the Eagle now. The Chicago package does not include airfare/accommodations. See you there? Sign up now!

Omaha's Amy Marie Meek will take her last walk as International Ms. Leather '93 on Saturday, March 19. The city will be inundated with leather people who will convene here for the IMSL '94 Weekend kicking off with Ms. SF Leather Diana Hardick's benefit beer/soda bust at the Eagle Saturday, March 12 at the Eagle. The theme is "Star Trek — The SEX Generation" with futuristic fantasy entertainment, a 50/50 raffle, buffet



and leather raffle for \$8.

At 1900, Thursday, March 17, meet the judges and contestants at a site (to be announced) for \$6. After that, women are encouraged to attend the Mr. June '95 Bare Chest Contest at the Eagle where some of the IMSL contestants will be judges.

Friday, March 19, is a celebration dinner (\$26), again at a site to be announced, honoring outgoing IMSL. Amy Marie Meek at 1930. And Saturday, March 20 at 1500 in afternoon, International Ms. Leather '94 will be chosen with tickets ranging from \$20 to \$35. If you're a member of IMSL Inc., the whole thing will cost you \$60, otherwise, it's \$75. For ticket info, call 1-800-639-IMSL. Don't wait! They'll be on sale at Stormy Leather by March 7th. Almost two dozen women will compete.



American Leather Man '94, Lenny Chiofalo will compete at International Mr. Leather in Chicago in May. He won his title in Washington, D.C. late last year.

You remember the Castro bartender who tried to dry wet money in the microwave and lost hundreds and the time he tried to dry wet money outside only to watch it blow away in the wind when it dried? Well, South of Market is not without its gremlins, to wit: a SOMA bar person "accidentally" placed \$700 marked for deposit in one of several Priority Mail envelopes and no one has returned it yet! Will heads roll? Is somebody having a good time with the moola? Will we ever know?

Were three bar-type people (who haven't spoken to each other for over a year now) seething last week when they found themselves seated next to each other at the AIDS Emergency Fund dinner? Did Art Tomaszewski play the "diplomat" in the scenario, and who was that other dude who kept asking amused observers: "Why am I being treated like I've got leprosy?" The bar wars continue, continue...unless Richard at Mis-

ter 5 tells me different, you'd probably like to know that John Ferarri, formerly of *Drummer* magazine, is set to become the manager of the Mister 5 leather shop at the new L.U.R.E. club in New York. Ask me if Wally Wallace is overjoyed at this development!

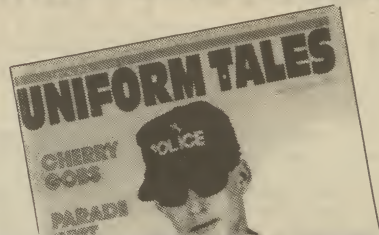
Look for the 1994 Mr. Northern California Drummer contest to include contestants with the titles Mr. Drummer San Francisco, Mr. Drummer Southbay (or San Jose), Mr. Alameda County Drummer, Mr. Russian River Drummer, Mr. Sacramento Drummer and possibly a Mr. Fresno Drummer and a Mr. Russian River Drummer. Intl. Mr. Drummer Graylin Thornton will be bizzzzzzzy in the coming months. And speaking of new titles, they're holding the first Mr. New Mexico Leather contest in Albuquerque the weekend of March 25-27 at The Ranch Bar. Make your plans now!



Mr. New York Leather, Orlando Diaz, sashed with the Stonewall '94 logo, will represent the Big Apple in Chicago next May. He is working very hard on the NY Leatherfest during the Stonewall celebration.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

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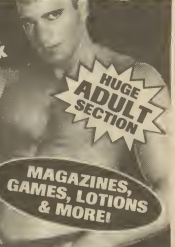
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Victory Party Planned

Well, better late than never: congratulations to Emperor Chuck and Empress Anita. And while I'm honoring people, might I also say that Empress Ginger really 'peed' with that entrance of hers...shades of years past when Empress Cristal was around.

The Bay Area Rah Rahs are in need of donations for their trip to the Gay Games in June. The donations are tax-deductible, so contact Steve Burke, or Morgan Craig, at John Sims Performing Arts, 1519 Mission Street, S.F., Ca. 94105.

Just in the nick of time,

there will be a Victory Party for Emperor Chuck and Empress Anita on Friday, March 4, at Kimo's Penthouse at 9 p.m. If you're still in the partying mood on Saturday the 5th be sure to catch the fabulous 'Tommy Rose Show' at 10 p.m. You won't want to miss this, as Tommy is a fabulous entertainer with real talent and enthusiasm.

Barfly news: Kimo's now has all three Lynn sisters on the plank, Ronnie and Tammy and, of course, Lips Lynn. Do drop by, if not for the three sisters, then to experience the one and only Mark Wisdom, who walks the plank Sunday thru Tuesday, from 7 p.m. till 2 a.m.

And also on the plank is the wonderful Bobby Pace, who can be found nightly now at the Kokpit. And on Thursday, the 17th, he welcomes all to his annual St. Patty's Day Party.

On Saturday, March 5, at 8 p.m., Polk Street's The Wooden Horse will hold a small drag show in the smallest little bar North of Market Street. The event will be hosted by Empress Sissy SpaceOut and it's sure to be a showstopper, so make sure to put it on your calendar.

Yes, I am back to work at Kimo's after a three-day suspension for partaking in the festivities in Portland on Sunday. In other news about

Portland, Darcelle and Mame had one of the greatest times ever and can't wait till next year when Darcelle will bring the cast down for a performance at Kimo's Penthouse. Cora, I hope you're taking good care of Lillian's pussy while she's in Australia and, uh, could I get that phone number of that trick that Dolly Dale purchased for you?

Manager Jim (Bette) Bonko has informed me that the Polk Rendezvous has been completely remodeled under the direction of Ms. Bella Boche. Apparently it's looking reeeceaaally fabulous. Stop by for a drink.

I got a nice note the other day from John Kehr — aka

Virginia — and I'm to greet all of you from him. He says it's unbelievably cold in Ohio. Oh, Art York, you're supposed to phone soon.

Entertainment line: The P.S. on Polk Street has some fabulous talent coming up, no, not Reba, but Bob Sanders and David Kelsey. If you've never seen them I suggest you get over there and treat yourself to something new and different.

Remember everybody, the Cable Car Awards are on Saturday, March 19. This year the show will be hosted by Sharon McNight and Keith Meinhold. For tickets, call 334-0871. ▼



Three hot new film programs on 3 big screens in main auditorium, each program 3 hours, changed Sunday and Thursday. Main screen — 3 features; 2nd — All Hot Jackoffs, Grand Prix and Halcyon film exclusives; 3rd — Classic Film Loops of the '60s-'70s. Plus J/O Room with monitor screens. Our J/O audience does its own live show every day! Adm. \$8. Circle J is HOT, CLEAN and SAFE!

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Affairs to Remember

Thursday, March 3: Looking for Mr. May 1995 on the Bare Chest Calendar tonight at 2200 at the SF-Eagle. Win \$100 and a spot on the 10th anniversary calendar — all to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund.

The fabulous Rainbeau premieres at Lily's tonight at 2130 in what will be a weekly show with new dancer talent and other performers.

Weekend March 4-6: Pantheon of Leather Awards in Houston all this weekend, including the International Mr. and Ms. Slave contest. All the action is at the Wyndham Warwick Hotel (800) 822-4200. A lot of SF people have been nominated for awards — good luck in the voting. With Frank Nowicki and Kay Hallanger emceeing, it should be fun!

Saturday, March 5: If you find yourself in Everett, Wash., tonight, you might want to attend the Mr./Ms. Everett Leather Contest. No time, location or prices reached me at my dead-

line.

Sunday, March 6: Golden State Rodeo dudes host the beer bust at the Eagle today, 1500-1800. No details furnished by my deadline.

Make a Leather "Love Connection" with Personal Ad party and fundraiser at the Turf Club in Hayward from 1400-1800, with Mr./Ms. Alameda County Leather Randy and Beth. Wedding of Keith Shaw and his "Mike" follows at same location.

Wednesday, March 9: The search for Mr. March '95 on the Great Buns Calendar gets underway at 2130 at the Watring Hole tonight. Win \$75 and become a "legend" in your own time. Benefiting the AEF.

Thursday, March 10: Mr. Basket Contest at the Edge tonight with beer bust starting at 2000 for \$6. Raffle tickets, contest at 2200 to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Friday, March 11: Mr. Furry Man '94 Contest at the SF-Eagle begins at 2000. See details

above. Linda Imperial will entertain. Loads of fun and hair, hair, hair. Guess who gets to emcee?

Weekend March 11-13: Leatherfest VI in San Diego begins with a plethora of activity tonight and continues through Sunday. All the action is at the Radisson Hotel Mission Valley (800) 333-3333. Seminars, lectures, a banquet, play party — all hosted by the NLA Chapter of the Year, NLA San Diego. Over 800 people expected. See you there?

Also, if you're in Boston, it's the Mr. Vulcan 1994 weekend and contest by the Boston Leather Knights at the Boston Ramrod. Rubber men especially welcome.

Weekend March 25-27: Mr. Indiana Leather contest in Indianapolis (with Lenny Broberg emceeing) and Mr. Leather New Mexico in Albuquerque (with moi emceeing). Indiana contest by Omicron MC and Albuquerque's hosted by the Sandia Leather Men. ▼

Sports Briefs:

Coastal Hike

Join the Gay/Lesbian Sierrans, Saturday, March 12, for a magnificent 6.9 mile hike thru dense forest, past flowering hillsides, and then along-

side a series of small cataracts. Expect spectacular views. Bring lunch, water, sturdy shoes or boots and sunblock. Meet at Thrifty (Church & Market), 9 a.m. for carpooling, or at Panroll Station parking lot, 9:45 a.m. Rain cancels. Call 386-3088 for information.

Mt. Tam Surprise

Gay/Lesbian Sierrans hosts an 8-10 mile hike on Mt. Tamalpais. There will be several steep climbs and lots of great viewing, weather permitting. Saturday, March 19. Meet at Thrifty (Church & Market) at 9 a.m. for carpool. Bring lunch, liquids and layered clothing. Call for Marin meeting time/place. For information, call Kathy at 661-5704, or Bill at 647-3775.

Mt. Diablo

View Mt. Diablo in all its diversity and glory through 3-D eyes as Gay/Lesbian Sierrans is treated to a very special slide-show by nature photographer Stephn Joseph. March 15, 7:30 p.m. at Sierra Club, 730 Polk St.

Big Basin

The Gay/Lesbian Sierrans will hike California's oldest state park, which includes Berry Creek Falls, March 26, Saturday. Bring lunch, snacks, water and the proper hiking attitude. Meet at Thrifty (Church & Market) at 9 a.m. to carpool. Call Kenn at 558-8675 for more information.

Ruud

(Continued from page 39)

tonio Ballet, and Oakland Ballet.

An accomplished choreographer, several works of Ruud's are in San Francisco Ballet's repertoire, including *Mobile*, *Metamorphoses*, *Trilogy*, *Introduction and Allegro*, *Richmond Diary* and *Step for Two*.

Ruud also created ballets for other companies: the American Ballet Theater, Na-

tional Ballet of Canada, Kansas City Ballet, Ballet West, Pittsburgh Ballet Theater, National Ballet of Cuba, the Columbia National Ballet of Bogota, Oakland Ballet, Ballet Met and others.

A short-subject film, *Balances*, released in 1981, is based on his best-known ballet, *Mobile*, and was a highlight of the San Francisco Ballet's 1994 Opening Night Gala and 50th Anniversary Gala in January 1983.

Mr. Ruud is survived by son, Christopher Ruud, mother Gladys Popworth, brothers Jack and Michael and half-sister April McMurdo. A public Requiem Eucharist in thanksgiving for Tomm's life will be held at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco on Monday, March 7 at 3 p.m. A reception will follow. Donations in Mr. Ruud's memory may be made to the AIDS Ministry at Grace Cathedral or any other AIDS organization. ▼

Sports

(Continued from page 44)

gay ski club. Call for more information (415) 995-2772.

Soccer

San Francisco Spikes Men's Soccer. Practice Tuesdays, 5:30-8 p.m., at Beach Chalet in Golden Gate Park. Call Carlo Togni at 821-4248.

Women's Soccer. Call Golden Gate Women's Soccer League Chair Jan Mullen at 753-0946.

Softball

S.F. Gay Softball League — Conducts a regular season of 14 games for men and women in three divisions from March through June. Winter pick-up ball on Sundays: Two games are played, one at 10:30 a.m. and another at noon, at Christopher Field — located behind the west end of the Safeway parking lot off Diamond Heights Blvd. Players of all skill levels are welcome. Please call Fred at (415) 381-0187 or Wendy at (510) 436-7959 for information.

East Bay Gay and Lesbian Softball players sought for pick-up games and possible entry in Fremont City League. All skill levels are welcome. For information, contact Patrick at 510-475-6339 or Mark at 510-797-6997.

Swimming

Tsunami Masters Swim Club — call Suzanne at 431-1933.

Team San Francisco

Gay Games bound Team San Francisco hopes to take at least 1,000 athletes from the Bay Area to Gay Games IV in New York, June 18-25, 1994. TSF supplies members with the latest information coming out of New York, travel & housing, registration packets for all sports, and a uniform for Opening and

(Continued on next page)

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Touring Famous Gay Landmarks With a Local Legend

An Afternoon With Jose

by Mary Richards

Thousands glued themselves to their television sets on Sunday, January 23 to watch their favorite football celebrities battle it out at the Superbowl. That same day, another legend, Jose Sarria, playing one of his favored personae, Empress I, the Widow Norton, kicked up her heels and took a busload of followers on a tour of gay landmarks of San Francisco.

Football legends may be the picture of butch, but for true grit and stamina, it's hard to beat Jose. This 70-year-old, self-professed queen was a colonel's orderly in the army; served brunch at restaurants on roller skates; had the inspiration to found the Court of Emperor and Empress; ran for supervisor; presided over the famous Black Cat bar (gone but not forgotten); and in his sixties attempted to exit San Francisco via a hot-air balloon from the steps of City Hall.

Now you know why we weren't watching TV — the real adventure that day wasn't on the tube, it was unfolding in real life, on a memory-filled bus ride with Jose.

The idea for the tour came from clever Chuck Largent, maitre d at Charpe's Bar & Grill. With his vast experience in theatre, Chuck has a good idea how to make people smile. Our day started with a hearty brunch at the restaurant. Next, it was the appearance of The Widow Norton herself, whose presence in dramatic black (as becomes one in mourning) added a touch of class to the proceedings. Then we hopped on the bus, the Widow took to the microphone and nothing in San Francisco from that point on was too sacred to avoid being dished. Stories poured forth from Jose with astonishing ease. We learned everything we ever wanted to know about everybody. If you think you can talk deep dish, you haven't met Jose.

From the Haight to the Castro, down South of Market and up Polk Street, the merry Widow maintained a running commentary all day long, revealing to all who could hang on a history lesson you're not about to learn in school. Bars which have been living in memory alone for years were recalled to life, and gossip never heard before was told. The era of the 1950s and '60s, when it was dangerous to wear drag and carouse, unfolded before our eyes.

Names that sound out of fashion now rolled off Jose's tongue with an endearing ring: The Golden Cask, The Purple Pickle and the Missouri Mule. Remember the Balcony, The Rainbow Cattle Company, The Toolbox and the infamous The Brig? Plenty of people on the tour did, and laughed while contradicting Jose if their recollections didn't match his memory.

A major stop that day was, of course, the building that once housed The Black Cat at 708 Montgomery Street, near the corner of Columbus. The name inscribed in stone at the top of the building reads Canessa Printing Company. It was here that the real Jose began. The Widow laid a wreath at the door in fond remembrance, and then regaled us with endless anecdotes from her past.

The Black Cat

Jose had come to The Black Cat in 1947 and entertained San Francisco there until it closed in 1963. During Halloween, he told us, they had a runway from the bar to the street, which was blocked off, and double-decker busloads of drag queens would come to celebrate. "Every Halloween," Jose recalls, "I would arrive by car and the door to the automobile would be opened by the chief of police in full uniform flanked by 12 officers. He would say, 'I turn the festivities over to you; this is your night.' He would walk me from there to The Black Cat and I would

hold court."

But it wasn't the kind of court that some people might imagine. "They describe The Black Cat as having chandeliers," Jose says with disdain. "Not true. It was a dirty sawdust bar with lights and a cat called Princess. It was just a real old-time bar and had nothing fancy about it."

Next, our tour took us to a bar on Kearny Street owned by Don Rogers (brother to Ginger Rogers) called Ginger's Trois. While we imbibed some welcome refreshments we listened to The Widow sing songs as only she can. These days she can be found performing at the famous Finnochio's, where she sings one of her favorite tunes, "There are Fairies at the Bottom of My Garden."

The day ended with a rousing rendition of "God Save Our Nellie Queens." And God save our nelly queens indeed! Remember, as Jose is wont to remind, "They threw the first high-heeled shoe at Stonewall." Our tour



Jose Sarria and friend welcoming everybody aboard the tour bus.

was over, but that always clever Chuck Largent has more bus adventures up his sleeve. He's currently planning a series of musicals to be

performed at Charpe's on Sunday afternoons, which will include *The Fantasticks*. Watch for details and wait for the fun to begin! ▼

Closing Ceremonies, and funds to help you get there. Members receive a quarterly newsletter and monthly calendars. To join TSF, call (415) 824-8118.

Table Tennis Association

Practice every Monday, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood Street. "We're gearing up for Gay Games IV." For more information, call D Minor at 346-9248 or Jon Myers at 864-2278. Coaching also available on Sunday mornings.

Volleyball

Volleyball practice every Sunday, 8 p.m., at Eureka Valley, 100 Collingwood. Call Tony Travers at 255-1332.

Club Volleyball practice for "B" league players and up every Saturday except first Saturday of each month, 9:30-11:30 a.m., at Eureka Valley, 100 Collingwood. Team and individual advanced players practice Mondays, 7:05 p.m., at Glen Park Gymnasium. Call Mike Bulawit at 731-2056. Gay Volleyball. Every

Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at 18th St. & DeHaro. Everyone welcome. Jay: 864-0257.

Wrestling

San Francisco Wrestling Club practices Sundays, 3-5 p.m. Call Jim Frazier (510) 538-8490.

Golden Gate Wrestling Club. Practice Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m., Fridays 7-9 p.m. and Sundays 12:30-3 p.m. at Eureka Valley Rec. Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels, men and women welcome. For information, call 826-6695. Bay Area Wrestling Newsline at 227-5802.

Martial Arts

Homosexuals in the Martial Arts. Meets Monthly. All styles and ranks welcome. Write to HiMA at P.O. Box 590601, S.F. Ca. 94159.

Editor's note: your sports group can be listed here: Send Sports Guide the name of your group, a brief description, the date, times, and locations of your practices, and a contact person for the group. B.A.R.'s Sports Guide, 395 9th St. SF CA 94103. ▼

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Are you butch? Great dancer? In-
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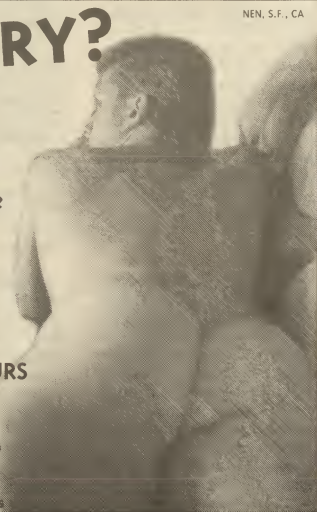
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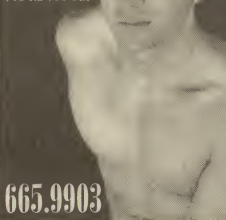
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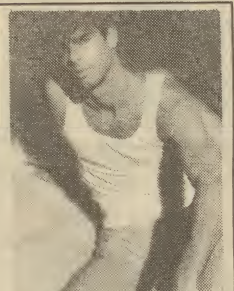
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Sensual Massage by
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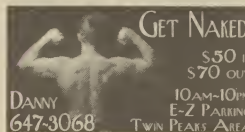
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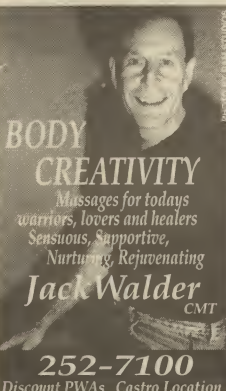


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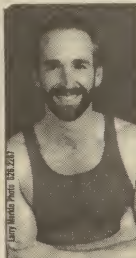
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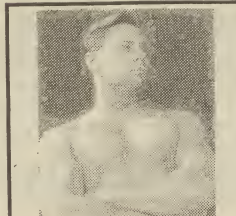
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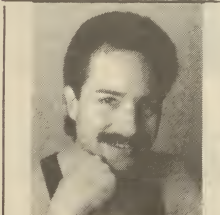
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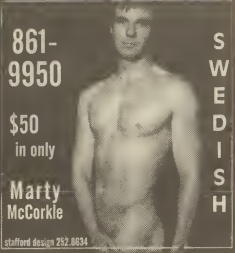
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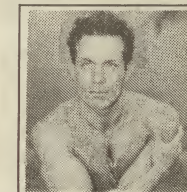
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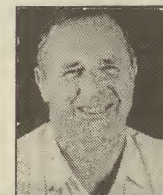
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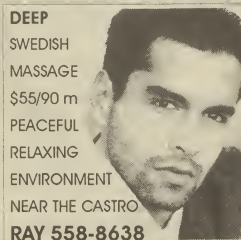
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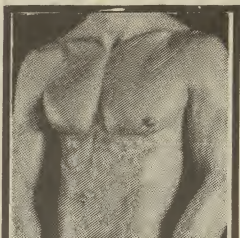
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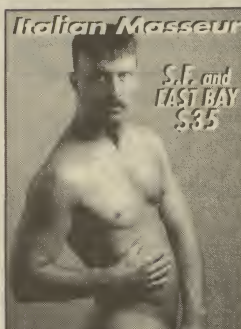
★ ★ ★ PHILLIP ★ ★ ★
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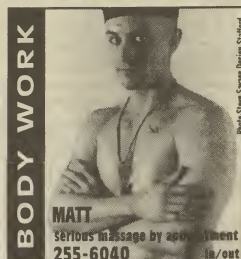
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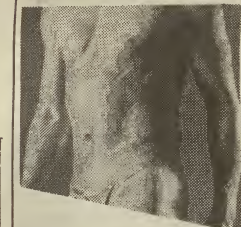


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BY
GREAT BODY
346-6334

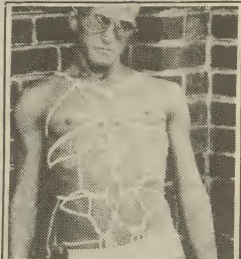
Put yourself in my
hands for a relaxing
massage. Warm Castro
sunroom with a view.
\$50 for 90 minutes.
David 864-1260

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Great Body - Great Touch
★ ★ \$30 Erotic Massage ★ ★
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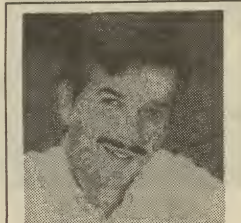
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Ex-Football Jock Gives
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LET AN EXPERT UNTIE THEM.
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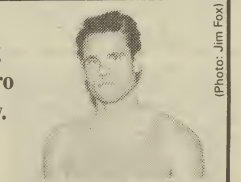
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Soothe away stress and tension
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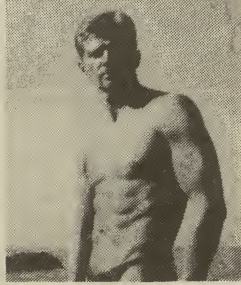
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PROSTATE & MORE
FULL BODY MASSAGE
Young, Blond, CMT
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Big Blond Man **Incredibly Powerful Hands**

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\$40

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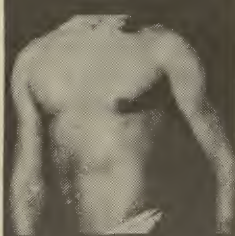
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6'1", 210 lbs., Blond/Blu
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90 Minutes \$35
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Tight Muscular, Bod-Smooth
22 yo, Versatile. Out Only.
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beauty. Hot, smooth, hard.
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biceps, green eyes & a
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belies the little boy
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LATIN
page Juan 997-2439

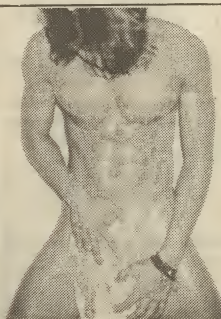
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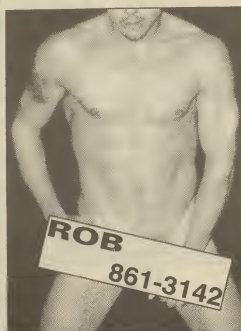
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KICKS BACK
\$30 ★ Days OK ★ Tom
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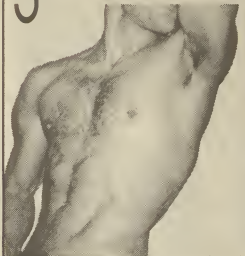
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Smooth, Hung. \$70 626-3031

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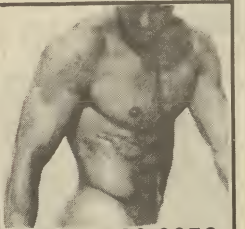
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240 Pounds, 25 years old
6'1", 52" ch., 20" a.
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S&M Specialty — Young
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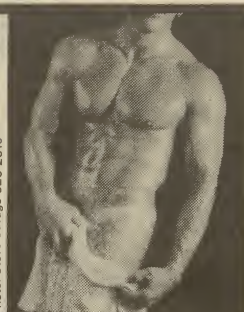
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INCREDIBLY
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Even if you are a complete beginner I can teach you how to relax
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dominant, and experienced, but relaxed.

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You'll Go

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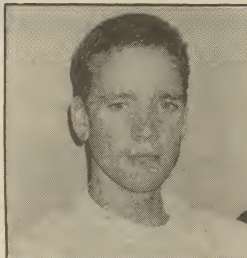
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BLOND STUD PUP

5'11", 170#, 8 1/2"

THICK & HARD

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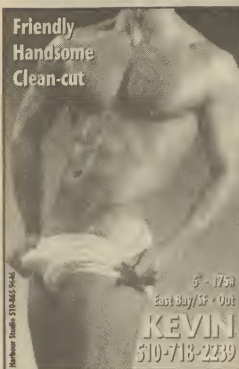
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Sexy-Hung XXX-Thick
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SLING
CHAINS
TOYS
S/M

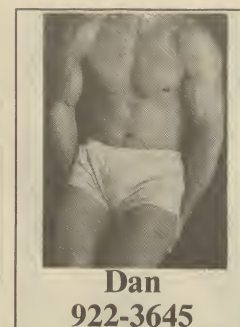
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MASCULINE JOCK
COLLEGE WRESTLER, 23
HUNG BIG, & XX THICK
PAGER # 998-7555 ROMAN E09

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Very Hndsm, Ital/Grm 32 y/o
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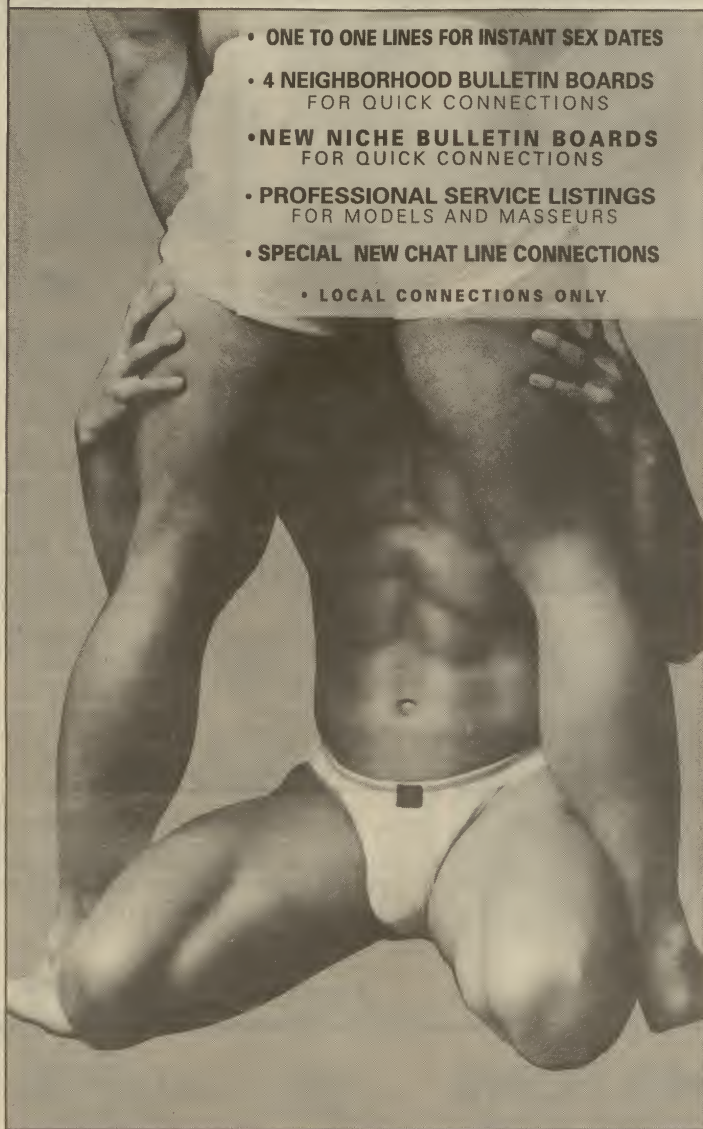
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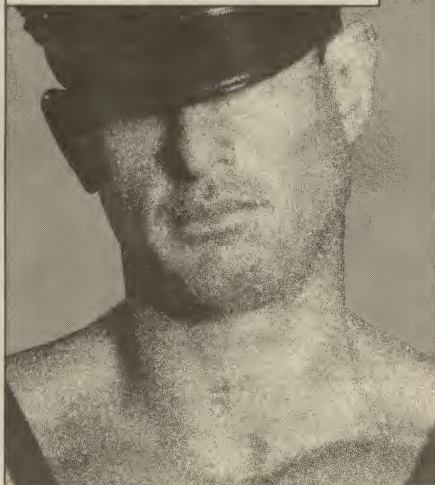
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ADULTS ONLY

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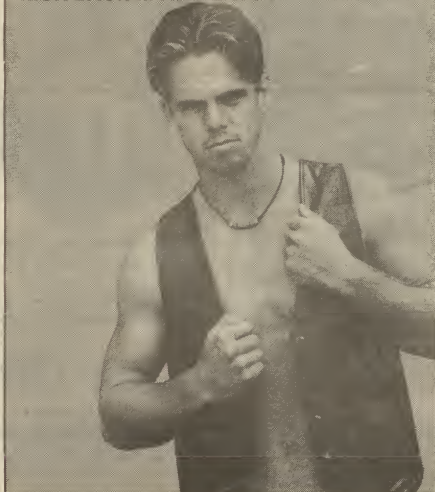
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ONE TO ONE • BULLETIN BOARDS

KICK BACK ... AND ENJOY THE SERVICE !



AS ADVERTISED IN THE STRAIGHT PAPERS...

JOJO
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HOT BISEXUAL ACTION !

LIVE ONE TO ONE • HOT BULLETIN BOARD LISTINGS

FREE LISTINGS MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 6 PM



HARDCORE CALL 415 398 2600 ENTER PIN # 93601
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FREE LISTINGS FOR MODELS AND MASSEURS
 ON **SEXCONNECT** CALL 415 391 6302 **ANYTIME !!**

NOTE FREE LISTINGS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE • GAY OWNED AND OPERATED • 212 688 4934 CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS

